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SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1874.

LITERATURE

History of the Indian Administration of Lord Ellenborough, in his Correspondence with the Duke of Wellington. To which is prefixed, by permission of Her Majesty, Lord Ellenborough's Letters to the Queen during that Period. Edited by Lord Colchester. (Bentley & Son.)

WHATEVER his faults, Lord Ellenborough was certainly one of the most noteworthy of the Viceroy's of our Eastern Empire. While he was Governor-General the prestige of British rule in India was undoubtedly raised at a time when it had fallen perilously low. His great faults were impatience of control and a certain hastiness of judgment respecting subordinates, to which we shall refer later. On one occasion also he displayed an amount of disingenuousness and a selfish shrinking from responsibility, which was in general alien to his character, for he was essentially a daring man. But let his letters speak for themselves. Lord Ellenborough's letters begin on the 20th of September, 1841, when he was on the eve, though he knew it not, of proceeding to assume his brilliant office. The letters which he wrote to the Queen, and which passed between him and the Duke of Wellington, before his nomination as Governor-General, though, to a certain extent, interesting, do not call for any comment. We cannot, however, pass by the account of the speech made by Lord Ellenborough at the farewell dinner given to him by the Court of Directors. In that speech, which was more full of pith than after-dinner orations generally are, he gave, in eloquent terms, an outline of the line of policy which he proposed to adopt. To restore peace to Asia, and with it "that sense of entire security, without which peace itself is almost valueless"; to imitate "the magnificent beneficence" of the Mohammedan Emperors; gradually, and with a due regard to prejudices, to raise the standard of civilization among the natives, —these were, he declared, his objects. He emphatically asserted that he considered that his first duty was to the people of India, and that he was about to enter on his duties without being fettered by a single pledge as to appointments. The spirit of the man was also shown in his promise to devote attention to irrigation and cotton. Had he been able to carry out his views in that respect, India would probably be, at the present time, a much richer country than it is, and millions would not be required to mitigate the horrors of a famine.

Before proceeding to India, Lord Ellenborough had asked the venerable Marquis of Wellesley to give his opinion on the condition of that empire. Severe and repeated illness prevented the Marquis from complying with the request till several months after it had been made; but in July, 1842, he drew up a memorandum, every line of which is worth reading. We can, however, only give one short extract, which it would be as well for our military authorities at home to bear in mind :—

"I need not, to your lordship, observe that an army, unequipped with all the necessities for its prompt movement, is no instrument of war, but a mere useless burden. At all times, therefore, the

British power in India should possess, and maintain in activity and discipline, an adequate army (as it was termed in my time) 'in the field.'"

On the 28th of February, 1842, Lord Ellenborough arrived in Calcutta, and immediately assumed the government. He had only heard of the disasters in Afghanistan a week previously, in Madras Roads, and thus found himself called upon to deal, and that promptly, with a grave emergency. Nor was Afghanistan the only subject making demands on his attention, for the war with China was proceeding, and there was in the Madras army a supposed unwillingness to embark for China, and among the troops at Hyderabad a mutinous disposition, on account of changes in allowances. Moreover, affairs were greatly complicated by the state of the Punjab. The only means of communication with General Pollock's force at Peshawar lay through that country; and although the ruler of the Sikhs was our ally, he was so much at the mercy of his turbulent troops, that communications might any day be interrupted. To the west, General Nott was in a somewhat critical position at Candahar, and several British posts were blockaded. The first step taken by the new Governor-General was to communicate to the Commander-in-Chief the political views entertained by the Indian Government. In the letter addressed to this officer it was stated that the conduct of Shah Shoojah absolved the British from all obligation to observe the tripartite treaty, that our conduct was to be guided by military considerations alone, and that it should have for its object the security of our troops from further disaster, and the re-establishment of our military reputation.

At the same time, Lord Ellenborough placed the whole of the troops in Scinde and Afghanistan under General Nott, and proceeded to take steps for the formation of an army on the Sutlej.

Thoroughly convinced of the fact that a flourishing state of the finances is indispensable to energy in war, Lord Ellenborough lost no time in looking into the expenditure and revenue of India. He complains that though the sources of revenue are flourishing, the expenditure is immense, and has been allowed to increase without an attempt at control.

"Every man," he says, "is for himself and his friend, and hardly one man, if any one, for the people. Military officers have been taught too much to look to civil and political employments as better paid, and think it a hardship to be left with their regiments. The number of officers permanently with their regiments is small. All are recalled for service in the field, but those who are recalled neither know their men nor their men them; and luxurious *politicians*, as they are called, do not make hardy soldiers."

The civil administration of India seems, from the following, to have been in a bad state :—

"The business of the Government is conducted on a bad system; there is no central control over expenditure. The most trifling things come before the Governor-General in Council and occupy the time while the empire may be in danger. There are few men of business. Lord Auckland told me I should find a great want of *instruments*: I could find them more easily in the army than in the civil service. I must, as soon as I can, create a minister of finance; but I am not quite satisfied with the only man I can take. The accountant-general is quite hopeless: he is a mere clerk, and a bad one; his only good assistant is just going away on sick leave. There is no secrecy. The 'secret' despatch informing the Government here of the intended

disposition of every company to be kept in Scinde, where (*sic*) a brigade was moved up the Pass to relieve Candahar, was, together with the details of that brigade, published substantially in the Bombay newspapers two days before it was received here, and in time for every particular of the information it contained being known in Scinde before the movement could take place."

It is interesting to learn that before he had been three weeks in India, Lord Ellenborough had determined that, as soon as the safety of the garrison of Jellalabad had been secured, the British troops should evacuate Afghanistan. Apparently but little thought was given to the prisoners, or to the re-establishment of British prestige in Afghanistan. In a letter to the Queen, dated May 16th, 1842, occurs the following passage :—

"Even had it been expedient that that army should advance upon Cabul, the want of provisions and of the means of transport would have rendered that advance impracticable, and orders have been given that it should retire at the earliest period consistent with the health of the troops. Similar orders have been given to the general commanding the army at Candahar."

Again, a little farther on :—"The General at Jellalabad has been informed that the Government will not ransom the prisoners; that it will agree to a general exchange of prisoners, without making any reservation." Brave but meaningless words these, if no military measures were to support them.

In another letter to Her Majesty, dated July 6th, 1842, Lord Ellenborough's artful scheme for reaping all the glory of a triumphal march to Cabul, without incurring any of the responsibility, creeps out :—

"Everywhere in the neighbourhood of Candahar the enemy is dispirited and broken, while the army of Major-General Nott is in very fine order, in high spirits, and not ill-equipped. Under all these new and improved circumstances, Lord Ellenborough has thought that he might venture to place in the hands of Major-General Nott the option of retiring by the route of Ghuzni and Cabul, instead of that of Quetta and Sukkur, to the Indus. Care has been taken to place before the general all the risks and dangers, as well as all the advantages, of this operation. . . . The option afforded to Major-General Nott has been communicated to Major-General Pollock, who, in the event of Major-General Nott's moving to the north, would co-operate in the attack upon Cabul."

Certainly a more strange method of conducting a retreat could scarcely be conceived, and the shallowness of the artifice is at once apparent. What makes the matter worse is that of the two Generals on whom he had thus unjustly cast the responsibility which he ought himself to have borne—for General Pollock was to advance to Cabul in order to assist General Nott's movement—he entertained a very low opinion. Writing to the Duke of Wellington, on June 7th, he makes use of the following expressions regarding General Nott : "I regret to say that in General Nott I do not entertain the smallest confidence as an officer. He is a brave man, but his own troops do not respect him as a General." In the same letter he speaks thus of General Pollock :—

"A greater difficulty exists in the influence of the political agents, the men anxious for revenge, and the others naturally clinging to the hope of relieving the prisoners. All these, since his arrival at Jellalabad, have got round Major-General Pollock, have led him to misunderstand the plainest instructions, to miscalculate the value of objects, and to act upon the passion of others, not upon his own reason."

And this was after a feat almost unparalleled in war—the forcing of the Khyber with untrustworthy allies, and troops which, till his arrival, had been thoroughly demoralized. A reference to the life of Field-Marshal Pollock, lately published, will conclusively prove that Lord Ellenborough's instructions were in the highest degree shifty and obscure; and the verdict of posterity will be, we are confident, that to the decried generals and politicals, and not to Lord Ellenborough, was it due that England was saved from a great disgrace, and that the prisoners were rescued. The Governor-General's prejudice against General Nott was, as will be seen afterwards, changed into a strong partiality for that gallant and able but somewhat impracticable officer. He, however, in spite of the convincing logic of events, seems ever to have entertained a low opinion of General Pollock. Writing to the Duke of Wellington on the 6th of July, 1842, when he knew of the forcing of the Khyber Pass, he says, speaking of General Pollock, "I cannot make a General, and it wants that more than anything else. Had he any real energy, he would not have allowed the camels he took with him to be sent back. If he had any real mind, he would not be in the hands of the boys about him." On the 17th of August, he says of General Nott, in whom ten weeks previously he had no confidence, "He looks at the whole measure with a grave and prudent resolution, which affords the best omen." His good opinion of Nott and bad opinion of Pollock go on increasing, for on the 18th of November he says, with reference to Nott's resignation of his command in Pollock's army,—

"I do not know the immediate cause, but I know that from the time of General Nott's arrival at Cabul he has disapproved of General Pollock's proceedings. The latter has been absolutely puerile in his transactions with the sons of Shah Shoojah, being entirely under the influence of an ex-political officer, Captain Macgregor. I am very sorry this event has occurred. It is impossible that any officer can have obeyed his instructions from the Government more implicitly than General Nott has done, and I have a much higher respect for him than for any officer in the service."

Nott subsequently withdrew his resignation, evidently due to temper, and Lord Ellenborough, writing after an interview with the testy but gallant and able old soldier, says, "I am altogether very much pleased with him. He is evidently very superior to all the others." Sir Hugh Gough was scarcely more fortunate than General Pollock in securing the confidence and good opinion of the Governor-General. Sir Hugh certainly was not a great commander, but we believe him to have been a thoroughly single-minded man, and by no means deserving of the following remarks, which occur in a letter to the Duke of Wellington on a possible war with the Sikhs: "He can only desire an opportunity of increasing his name." Sir Hugh's position under a Governor-General who, like M. Thiers, believed that, though only a civilian, he could teach war-worn Generals their art, cannot have been particularly pleasant. Indeed, in all his dealings, Lord Ellenborough displayed an arbitrary and arrogant disposition. He evidently was under the delusion that he was the Emperor of India, instead of merely the Queen's, or, rather, Company's, lieutenant. One act of sovereignty even his staunch friend the Duke of Wellington found it hard to justify

him in. We refer to the granting of medals to the army for Afghanistan, and to the army and navy for China. The bestowal of these marks of distinction was a clear usurpation of the royal prerogative. It caused great offence in England, and the Government asked the opinion of the Duke of Wellington, who drew up a remarkable memorandum on the subject. The gist of the Duke's opinion was, that though the Governor-General possessed the right to grant a medal—to be worn only in India—to the Company's troops, he had no right to confer one on any members of Her Majesty's army. He, however, recommended that Her Majesty should herself order a medal to be struck. In the course of the memorandum, the history of medals in the British army is treated, and the whole document is highly interesting. We can only, however, give one extract from it:—

"In the year 1815 a medal was struck to commemorate the battle of Waterloo, and then, for the first time, the restrictions in respect to the grant of medals as well to the navy as to the army were departed from, and the course pursued was otherwise irregular. However, the intention was that none should receive the mark of distinction not present in the great military event intended to be commemorated."

In the summer of 1844 the Court of Directors summarily dismissed Lord Ellenborough from his post, and the act was not unpopular. It had leaked out that the Governor-General had cared little for the release of the prisoners in Afghanistan. His bombastic proclamation about the apocryphal gates of Somnath; his ostentation and arbitrary conduct; the slights passed by him on his colleagues in council; his increased expenditure for military services, without first taking the pleasure of the Court thereupon; his constant absence from the seat of government at Calcutta,—all these facts, in the opinion of the few who gave a thought to Indian subjects, justified the Court of Directors in removing Lord Ellenborough. Nor was he unprepared for the blow. The despatches sent out to him had been full of complaint and censure, and the Duke of Wellington himself had warned him of the dissatisfaction caused by his proceedings. Lord Ellenborough had, indeed, repeatedly, in his correspondence with the Duke, expressed his conviction that he would shortly be recalled. Certainly, if he allowed his real feelings towards the Court of Directors at all to colour his communications with them, he could hardly have expected a continuance in office. In a letter to the Duke of Wellington, dated 18th of December, 1843, he says, speaking of the Court of Directors,—“How long is it to be borne that a body so constituted shall possess any influence whatever over political measures in India? I am satisfied that if they were left to themselves they would lose the country in three months.”

We have hitherto dealt with the unamiable side of Lord Ellenborough's character, but it is only just to draw attention to the eminent qualities which he undoubtedly possessed. He sometimes mistook violence for vigour, yet that his energy was frequently most advantageously employed cannot be denied. An instance of this is afforded by his conduct when, on arriving at Allahabad, in May, 1842, he found that General Pollock

had written for rockets. To use his own words:—

"I went to the fort myself the next morning, and had a dak laid to Ferozepore, and thence to Peshawur; and if there be not some unexpected difficulty, these rockets may be used in action against Afghan cavalry in three weeks from the day on which they left Allahabad, and even sooner. If they had been sent by hackeries, they would not have arrived in three or four months."

His political prescience with respect to the affairs of the Punjab was conspicuous. He felt convinced, as early as the beginning of 1844, that a war with the Sikhs was only a question of months, and it was this conviction which induced him to act vigorously in dealing with Gwalior, so as to clear his rear of enemies before he was required to give battle on the Sutlej. His treatment of the Ameers of Scinde was dictated by the same considerations. Hasty and unjust, too, as he frequently was in his estimate of character, he, undoubtedly, did always bestow appointments on the ground of merit alone. Indeed, his refusal to job, the cavalier way in which he treated his colleagues in council, and his rough treatment of able political officers, whose friends took up their cause, contributed more than anything else to his recall. His hatred of politicals became almost a mania, and was quite indiscriminate, even such a man as Outram being regarded by him with suspicion and dislike. At the same time, it must be admitted that some young military politicals had, with mischievous results, usurped control over veteran Generals. With the exception of the army, therefore, few Europeans in India regretted Lord Ellenborough's dismissal. The army supported him stoutly, and previously to his departure gave him a grand banquet. The rage of the Directors at this event was extreme, and the Duke of Wellington was urged to proclaim in a general order that the conduct of the hosts had been a breach of discipline. The memorandum of the Duke on the subject is a masterpiece of quiet but cutting sarcasm, and constitutes one of the most interesting portions of the book before us. The gist of it is that no breach of discipline had been committed, and that he positively declined to censure Lord Ellenborough's entertainers.

So full of matter is the record of Lord Ellenborough's Indian administration, that we have been quite unable to do more than glance cursorily at the most important passages; but we have no hesitation in saying that the book before us is a valuable contribution to the knowledge of a highly momentous period in the history of our Indian Empire.

SHEFFIELD.

Sheffield: Past and Present. By the Rev. Alfred Gatty, D.D. (Sheffield, Rodgers; London, Bell & Sons.)

TRAVELLERS who can look through the grime and smoke of the chief town in Hallamshire, have no difficulty in perceiving how great must have been the natural beauty of the place before it established itself as "the capital of steel." When Waltheof, the last of the Saxon Earls, and husband of Judith, the Conqueror's sister, was going to the block, for rebellion against William, he might be pardoned as he saw in his mind's eye the outspread of wild and picturesque beauty at the foot of his castle of Sheffield.

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The Sheffield property fell to the Norman De Lovetots, for whom Dr. Gatty has infinite respect. Under their benign sway, the iron-workers toiled in peace, and monks erected forges and dug for minerals, and two-thirds of the tithes of Sheffield went annually to swell the coffers of the Abbey of St. Wandrille, in Normandy. The domain was a splendid one when it fell to the last of the Lovetots, that beautiful Maude, whom Richard the First, as her guardian, gave to Gerard Furnival, the restless, self-asserting, indefatigable follower of him of the "lion-heart." For our own parts, we have more admiration for the Furnivals than for the De Lovetots. Some of the former seem to have had a turn for indifferently poetry; but one of them conferred on Sheffield municipal dignities which it has never since lost. Further, Thomas Furnival established the weekly market and the annual fair, and, better still, he released the inhabitants "from vassalage, and the payment of base and uncertain fines, besides giving them a court of justice and trial by jury." The De Lovetots are not to be compared with the Furnivals. These, through marriage of heiresses, were succeeded, first, by the Nevilles, and next by the Talbots; the Furnival name, however, is still the brightest in the local chronicle. Even "Hasty Furnival" was a name construed kindly, for he was as hasty in doing good as he was in cleaving men to the chin, as he did with alacrity on the field of Cressy. These Furnivals were great people in London as well as on the banks of the Sheaf. Their London mansion was on the site now occupied by Furnival's Inn. There, perhaps (we leave ardent enthusiasts to go beyond the hypothesis), a Furnival entertained Chaucer as a guest; and, after dinner, showed him, or gave him, that famous Sheffield knife which Yorkshire people used to wear in their girdle, and which Chaucer has noticed in his picture of the Miller of Trumpington—"A Sheffield whittle wore he in his hose." It was during the time that the Talbots reigned at Sheffield that the head of the house, the Earl of Shrewsbury, presented Burghley with a set of Sheffield knives. "Such things," he said, "as this poor country affordeth, with fame thereof throughout the realm."

An Earl of Shrewsbury was Lord of Sheffield when Wolsey passed about three weeks there, his reluctant guest. Under another Earl, Mary Stuart was detained fourteen years in Sheffield Manor House. Dr. Gatty describes her as "the accomplished, fascinating, guilty, but most suffering and pitiable of queens and women." Mary did not enable Shrewsbury and his virago wife, "Bess of Hardwick," to have much domestic comfort while she was their prisoner. "They never afterwards lived peaceably together, and in his later years the Earl permitted a female domestic to obtain an injurious power over him." The Sheffield possessions passed once more with a sole heiress (Alethea Talbot) to another family. She married the Earl of Arundel, from whom the present owner, the Duke of Norfolk, is descended. Of the Talbot lordship one curious memorial remains. The Earls of Shrewsbury, once a year, allowed "the apron men" to go into the deer park, "and kill and carry away as many deer as they could with their hands." The men sometimes carried off a score. Out

of this custom is said to have arisen the annual Cutlers' Feast.

How Sheffield stood under the last of the Shrewsbury Earls is thus told:—

"Shortly before the castle ceased to be occupied by the lords of the manor—for Earl Gilbert was the last who permanently resided—a survey was made of the town of Sheffield on the 2nd of January, 1615, which gives a deplorable account of its condition. There were in all 2,207 inhabitants. Of these 725 were living on charity, 100 householders were in a position to relieve others, but were poor artificers, not one being able to keep a team on his own land, and only 10 could keep a cow; 160 householders were living from hand to mouth, just able to maintain themselves from day to day; 1,222 were children and servants, dependent on their parents and employers. There seems to have been only one family in the rank of gentry, the Jessops of Broomhall, who entered their pedigree at the Visitation in 1612."

In the disturbed times of "King and Parliament," the Earl of Arundel and Surrey was an absentee. The Earl's bailiff, Stephen Bright, John Bright, his father, one of Cromwell's colonels, and the earnest Puritan vicar, of the same name and kin, seem to have been foremost in encouraging the town to support the Commonwealth against the Crown. After Marston Moor, the conquering party ordered Sheffield Castle to be destroyed; and the Earl of Arundel was ultimately allowed to repurchase the forfeited estates, by paying a fine of 12,000*l*.

The Hallamshire folk thought the end of the world had come when Sheffield Castle was knocked into ruins, and feudality was dead and buried, and the grand forest trees were felled, and turnips were grown in the park of the old barons. Resident agents represented the absentee lords, and ironmasters paid rent and made little fortunes. The fortunes were very little, and everybody tried to make his own as a cutler. A century and a half ago a master would retire satisfied with having made five hundred pounds! and then, probably, he invested it in cultivating a bit of land. Those were the times when Fuller's penny knife was the Sheffield production, before the shilling luxury was thought of, and masters and apprentices lived and worked together. These were superseded by the Wharnccliffe knife, the handiest pocket-knife ever invented, but it took two great men to invent it. It was designed one evening after dinner by Lord Wharnccliffe and Archdeacon Corbett.

The chapter of Sheffield Worthies is one of the most interesting in Dr. Gatty's volume. The following record of one of the most active of them is not inappropriate at the present season:—

"John Roebuck, M.D., was grandfather of the distinguished member for Sheffield, A. J. Roebuck, Esq. He was son of a manufacturer, and born in the town in 1718. He was educated at the Grammar School, and his family were Non-conformist; and, having a taste for the medical profession, he studied both at Edinburgh and Leyden, at which latter place he received his diploma. Having settled at Birmingham, he pursued his profession with diligence and success; but chemistry was his hobby, and by his pursuit of that science he discovered an improved method of refining the precious metals, and also a cheaper process of obtaining sulphuric acid, which was largely consumed for manufacturing purposes. The latter invention took him into Scotland, where, in 1759, he opened, at Carron, the first ironworks that were ever established in that country.

Under this bold adventure, Scotland produced to his hand about 1,500 tons of iron in the year, which, in these days, seems but a trifling quantity; but it led to what gives now an annual yield of considerably more than a million tons. Successful so far, he ventured to lease some collieries near Edinburgh. Here was plenty of coal, but the mines were flooded with water, and there was no pumping apparatus then known of sufficient power to drain them. At this crisis he became acquainted with James Watt, who was busy in perfecting his steam-engine, but needed capital. This Dr. Roebuck supplied, and he took Watt into partnership; but, before the latter could complete the powerful engine which was required for draining the coal-mine, the vast undertaking involved Dr. Roebuck in ruin; and, like many other pioneers to successful issues, he died a martyr to his too sanguine enterprises. Although, as we see, Dr. Roebuck passed his active life out of Sheffield, his commercial efforts were nevertheless directed to the raising of coal and iron in large quantities, and these are the prime articles of our local production; so that his interest in them would, therefore, be native born. Moreover, his younger brothers were the first merchants of the town who are said to have opened correspondences with continental houses."

Many of the worthies made fortunes, and several failed to do so. Bolsover, who discovered the way of making the once famous "Sheffield plate" copper-silvered, used to say, that when he began to build his rolling mills "his purse had no neck to it; and when he left off, his purse was all neck." James Dixon, on the other hand, was accustomed to say, "I made a fortune out of a thought which struck me." Britannia metal. Walker is the acknowledged father of the iron trade, and if he did not build up a mighty fortune himself, his labours helped others to that end. Meanwhile, ruin fell upon some families that had taken county rank. Whirlow Hall, Stumperlow Hall, Fullwood Hall, were all wrecked with their roystering masters. John Bright of Whirlow seems to have been a sadly dissipated dog. Hall of Stumperlow, and Fox of Fullwood, were his jolly companions, "and all came to poverty about the beginning of the last century." But there were more proper examples of Sheffield humanity. Bailey of Burngreave, "the Bentham of Hallamshire," is a good example of the better quality. The 90,000*l*. he bequeathed to the town in which he took the utmost interest, and from which he got scanty gratitude, is a proof of his good feeling as well as of his good fortune.

Dr. Gatty speaks severely of the Sheffield trades unions, their tyranny, cowardice, cruelty and rattenings, mutilations and murderings. Nevertheless, our author has a bright side of the workman to show to his readers. One instance is charmingly illustrative of the fine sense that ennobles the thoughtful mechanic mind. When Scott was last in Sheffield, he bought a knife, and he wrote down the words which he wished to have engraved on the handle, "Walter Scott, Abbotsford." The vendor ordered his man to do the work. "When my man," he said afterwards, "saw the name, he almost went out of his senses, and offered me a week's work if I would only let him keep the autograph; and I took Saunders at his word."

In the manufacturing as well as in the feudal times, Sheffield has suffered from deeds of violence. In 1840 the town was in great peril, trade was "dreadful bad," people were in great distress, and angry spirits were abroad.

The authorities discovered a plot to burn and plunder the town. It was only defeated by the clever arrest of the desperate leader, Holberry, who afterwards died in York gaol.

With all its "ups and downs," Sheffield has contrived to keep its own. Its cutlery is still the best in the world; and few places can boast of two worthier historians than Joseph Hunter, the chronicler of Hallamshire, and Dr. Gatty, who has written the story of its capital city.

SECTS.

Dictionary of Sects, Heresies, Ecclesiastical Parties, and Schools of Religious Thought.
Edited by the Rev. J. H. Blunt, M.A.
(Livingtons.)

In this age of dictionaries and cyclopædias of every kind, it was not to be expected that the history of the rise and growth of the various forms of religious thought would be unrepresented; and the student of comparative theology has now a book of reference provided for him, which, in spite of considerable shortcomings, inevitable in so composite a work, has the merit of giving, in reasonable compass, readable accounts of the chief forms of belief from the Christian era, and indeed before it, to the present day.

The general scope of the work is sufficiently indicated by a tabular statement of the chief subjects treated on. The list is headed by the ancient Jewish sects, and by the leading non-Christian religions of the world, Brahminism, Buddhism, and the like, which, although not strictly perhaps within the range of the title, are yet calculated to increase the general usefulness of the book; and we are glad to find an article on the recent religious movement of the Brahmo Somaj.

The Jewish sects, on the whole, have hardly been treated satisfactorily. Thus the accounts, for example, of Pharisees and Sadducees resemble rather popular magazine articles than scholarly essays. One would be glad to ask in passing why the writer of the former article should speak of "the tradition of the Talmud and the Mishna," when the Mishna is but a part of the Talmud, and that the oldest part; or why the very problematical derivation of the name of the latter from one Sadoc is given as a known historical fact.

The next group of articles consists of those on the chief so called heresies, from Apostolic times downwards, among which, by a slight stretch of the term, Gnosticism is included, though doubtless an older form of religion than Christianity, which, on thoroughly eclectic principles, absorbed as much of Christianity as suited its purpose. Besides this, the more prominent of its various branches are given separately, as Basilidians and Valentinians. In the former is a discussion on the curious word Abraxas; but it may be questioned whether "this name is *evidently* of Coptic origin." The resemblance of the name to the undoubtedly Hebrew Abracadabra suggests the possibility of the former being such a modification of the latter as would give the mystic number 365, and thus Abraxas is but a way of denoting the Incommunicable Name. May we add that Balsamus, another of the sacred names, does not mean Lord of Heaven, but Lord of the Sun, *Baal Shemesh*.

Next follow the long stream of sects,

arranged in groups as those which arose during the age of persecution, from the age of Constantine to that of Mohammed, from thence to the Reformation, during the Reformation, and purely modern sects. In the first of these groups, one of the most interesting articles is that on Manichæism, which traces up to the time of the crusade against the Albigenses the history of that wonderful creed, which centuries of the bitterest persecution failed in utterly crushing. It is to be regretted that the early Manichees, like most of the early heretics, are known almost entirely from the writings of their opponents; and we may cease to marvel at the Caliph Omar, when we find Augustine advising the wholesale burning of Manichee literature. We may further single out the articles on important sects like the Arians, Pelagians, and Nestorians; but that on the last of these would have been more satisfactory had the writer taken a juster view, as it seems to us, of the part borne by Cyril in the condemnation of Nestorius. There can be no reasonable doubt, whatever view be taken of the opinions of Nestorius, that Cyril displayed here, as in his behaviour to Chrysostom, far more of the promptings of personal jealousy than genuine zeal for the good of religion.

In the group of sects, from the rise of Mohammedanism to the Reformation, the most interesting are those which, however varied in themselves, are alike risings against the exaggerated sacerdotalism of those centuries, as Albigenses, Hussites, Lollards, Waldenses. The article on the first of these continues the history of the early form of Manichæism, with which the religious creed of the Albigenses was certainly deeply tinged; but we much regret that the writer has hardly a word of protest to record against one of the bloodiest persecutions that ever disgraced humanity; and in this and the cognate articles a certain amount of bias is often too visible.

Among the religious bodies who rose in the Reformation period we may specially mention a good article on Lutheranism; and among those of a somewhat later period, that on Puritanism.

Not the least interesting part of the book to many readers will be the articles which give the history and views of sects and religious parties still existing in the world. Besides the chief religious bodies of Great Britain, America, and Russia, under which last a great deal of interesting information, new to most readers, is given, we find articles on a host of the abnormal religious developments of later times—Jumpers, Coglers, Peculiar People, Jerkers and Barkers, and the like. In the case of some of these, it is desirable to have a trustworthy and succinct account, and no one would grudge articles of reasonable length to Swedenborgians, Southcottians, or Mormons; but it is hard to see how much wiser we are for being told that "Hard Shell Baptists are a small sect of Baptists in the Southern States of America, known only by name."

Among what we may call the normal religious sects, we find good articles on Methodists, Moravians, and Quakers, and the story of the religious movement of the Old Catholics is briefly told.

Elaborate articles, which will commend themselves very differently to different readers, are those on Broad, High, and Low Churchmen.

It is, perhaps, questionable whether it was wise to introduce into a dictionary, where rigid impartiality should be preserved, discussions on subjects where the personal element must enter so strongly, and where the work and opinions of living persons are necessarily submitted to criticism. The article on Broad Churchmen, after defining the theology of the school as one "in which much is doubted and rejected, and very little believed," passes briefly under review Arnold, Bishop Hampden, Maurice, and at some length the 'Essays and Reviews,' in language in which much animus is displayed and little judgment. The article on Low Churchmen, on the other hand, assumes a mildly patronizing tone, as befits the description of those to whom the chief merit assigned seems to be almost that of having prepared the way for the High Church movement. This last is treated of at great length; and though the article is moderate in its tone, we think its length much out of proportion to its importance.

Taken as a whole, we doubt not that the Dictionary will prove a useful work of reference; and it may claim to give in reasonable compass a mass of information respecting many religious schools, knowledge of which could previously only be acquired from amid a host of literature. Here and there the tone of a certain school in the Church shows itself, but, generally speaking, the articles are written with great fairness, and in many cases display careful, scholarly work.

French Society, from the Fronde to the Great Revolution. By Henry Barton Baker. 2 vols.
(Bentley & Son.)

WHAT is Society? It is an utterly different thing at two ends of the same city, and in the centre of the city resembles in nothing the other two. "I never meet him in Society!" however scornfully intended, may be a great compliment to him whom it is designed to depreciate. To some, "gilded saloons," with men who maintain a display by periodically compounding with their creditors, and women who are like the wife of Béranger's Petit Homme Gris,—

Qui fait payer ses atours
Aux amours,

—constitute "Society," in spite of, and a little because of, these circumstances. To others, Society is nowhere in particular and yet everywhere, for they make it whithersoever they go, without thinking of it. They are not the Egoists who are proud to be a part of Society without belonging to it and acknowledging the duties it demands. They are of that better sort, who can take to a single companion or to many a well-stored mind without thinking anything about it, and who can elicit from others even more than they contribute themselves.

"French Society" is a wide term. Of the real thing, we are not quite so ignorant, perhaps, as the Frenchman was of English society, who informed us that English peeresses tossed off their glasses of spirits at the bars of the gin-palaces,—but we are ignorant of it, nevertheless. How little below the surface does any foreigner see of French Society! He sees nothing of it in the *salons* to which he may be invited. He sees there certain phases of life, but no more real life than that of the actor on

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the stage. Still, he hears from one friend stories of other friends,—social traits, as they are called,—and is not this a history, or a chapter in the history, of contemporary Society? Such illustrations, however, may be totally devoid of truth. Whenever a dynasty is overthrown in France, volumes appear to show how utterly disreputable were the morals of the Court and Society under that last dynasty—royal, republican, or imperial. When such stories are gravely told, we are put on our guard against too easily believing all that is written of the "Society" of earlier times. As for those religious "Lectures" which are to be read from time to time in the newspapers, they so pervert all history, social and religious, of the remote periods they affect to illustrate, that readers are tempted to put off believing anything till a more favourable opportunity.

Meanwhile, the word Society itself remains not altogether clearly defined. Mr. J. S. Mill hated and avoided "Society"; but his friends assert that he was himself the very best "Society." Charles Dickens, when he was summoned on a jury, never attended to the summons; he shirked a duty which another was obliged to perform, and had a lofty scorn of serving "Society" in a box of jurymen.

In Mr. Baker's volumes, we have rather more of national than of social history; but the illustrations of French Society are to be picked out from among those that are general. For example. We obtain a good idea of the manners of the times in which De Retz lived, from a single incident in a long story. He joined, thoughtlessly, with D'Orléans and De Soissons in a plot to murder Richelieu. When fairly involved, De Retz had a feeling which he was at a loss to define, whether it was fear or scrupulousness. He certainly did not like the idea of murder. He said so, and was laughed at as a poor creature who would not assault an enemy's quarters at night, for fear of killing people in their sleep. De Retz himself says:—"This shamed me out of my reflection. I embraced the crime which appeared to me consecrated by great examples, and made justifiable and honourable by the danger!" And what a revelation this is! How lightly life was held in those days! "Thou shalt do no murder" was not in the Decalogue of Fine Gentlemen.

In the memoir of La Vallière, we have the old legend of how "she told her love," in which Mr. Baker innocently believes. It was thus. There had been a festival and banquet at Fontainebleau. The king had danced in a ballet, as Ceres! Later in the night, La Vallière and other ladies strolled into the forest, and seated themselves beneath some leafy bower. The king and other gentlemen followed, secretly, and listened to the talk. One of the ladies, La Vallière, spoke in terms of her high admiration of the sovereign. Louis's delight betrayed his presence. The ladies fled; the king and his gallants pursued; but, so we are gravely told, the damsels were the swifter of foot, and they got back to the chateau without being recognized. It was only on a subsequent day that, on some Court solemnity, Louis heard La Vallière speak, and instantly identified the voice as that of the lady who had declared him divine.

All this is dramatic, especially in its absurdity, which does not need to be pointed out.

Mr. Baker is as gushing and sentimental as a "love-sick girl" in telling his story of La Vallière; and he often contradicts himself on the same page. When the romance is wrung out of the narrative, there remains a pretty chronicle enough, and La Vallière is little the better or the worse for the truth being told.

This celebrated young lady, in spite of her limp, traces of small-pox on her face, her large mouth, and her low stature, had the charms of expression and manner. She is said to have been without wit, and she was so ill-educated that she could not write her own letters. If she had no wit, Mademoiselle had something as good. When Louis declared what he called his love, she fled to the convent at Chaillot. The king followed her, and, of course, brought her back. Ten Most Christian Kings could not have torn her from such a refuge, if she had chosen to stay. Louis took Louise to the apartment of his brother's wife, the English Henrietta (Stuart) d'Orléans, to whom he was also "making love." He introduced her as a "fille d'honneur," in whom he took great interest. "Very good!" said the plain-spoken daughter of Charles the First, "je la traiterai comme une fille à vous!" Nothing could be more severely witty. And nothing can better describe the modesty of Mlle. de la Vallière, the king's mistress, than the terms in which French authors, as gushing as Mr. Baker, speak of it. "With her, honour was before all, and she exposed herself to death itself rather than allow her frailty to be suspected." That is to say, Mlle. Louise was anxious not to be "found out."

With her, "appearance" was everything. As Chesterfield said that a man ought to be gentlemanlike even in his vices, so La Vallière thought that a veil of modesty might well become a king's mistress. By becoming a royal concubine, she nearly broke the heart of her mother, the Marquise de Rémy; but she had such regard for the feelings of the poor Queen that, when she gave birth in the King's palace to her first illegitimate child, Mademoiselle did all she could to conceal the event from the Queen's knowledge. That royal lady, as she was coming from Mass, visited her husband's favourite. The moment was critical; the devices resorted to in order to deceive the Queen as to what was going on before her remind one of a scene in a Chinese drama, laughable, coarse, but not to be dwelt upon.

La Vallière belongs to the most splendid portion of Louis the Fourteenth's career, and therefore shares in the reflected glitter of the time and the man. She was the King's mistress, but she was no other man's wife or *amourette*. Compared with herself, that king was, after all, but a poor creature. After the birth of their son, the Comte de Vermandois, La Vallière lost a good deal of her old charm of person and of manner, wherein lay her greatest charm. Her exquisite joyousness gave way to a sadness which she could not control. Just then, the glory of her master and lover was increasing, and he soon cared nothing for the toy of which for a season he had been so proud. The beaming face of Madame de Montespan won Louis from the side of Louise. This man has been praised for his good breeding; yet on his last visit to La Vallière's apartment, he had with him a favourite spaniel called "Malice." He flung the animal towards her,

as he left, saying:—"There, Madame, that is the only fitting companion for you!" and he passed into the chamber of Madame de Montespan.

There would be a justifiable reason for thinking better of La Vallière even then, if she had at once, in 1669, after this double insult, quitted Versailles. But she lived on there, under the same roof with the new mistress, till 1672, when she withdrew to the convent at Chaillot. Had she only remained there, she would have better consulted her good name; but she went back to Court, on the invitation of the King. With what hopes could she have been induced to return? If she had any, she was disappointed. After residing two years more at Versailles, where Madame de Montespan still shamefully reigned, the ex-mistress finally escaped from her splendid degradation, and, enrolled among the Carmelite Nuns, became known only as Louise de la Miséricorde. She was then in her thirtieth year. In 1680, Madame de Sévigné visited "Sister Louise" in her convent. "She had, in my eyes," writes the first-named lady, "lost none of her youthful charms. She has the same eyes, with the same expression; neither hard diet nor lack of sleep has sunk nor dimmed them. The uncouth dress cannot mar her grace or mien. Her modesty is not greater than when she gave to the world a Princess de Conti, and yet it is enough even for a Carmelite. In truth, this dress and the retreat bestow dignity upon her." Madame's allusion to the modesty of the nun not being greater than that of the King's mistress when she gave birth to the first of their two children, "Mlle. de Blois," who subsequently married the Prince de Conti, rings rather epigrammatically. Her son, Louis de Bourbon, Comte de Vermandois, Admiral of France, was killed in Flanders, at the age of eighteen. Bossuet took the news to Sister Louise, and at the hearing of it she exclaimed:—"Why must I weep for his death before having ceased to weep for his birth?"—a pretty, sentimental utterance, but to be included, we fear, among the sayings of celebrated persons which have never been said.

Sœur Louise died in 1710, aged sixty-five, after having passed nearly six-and-thirty years as a cloistered nun. It is as the penitent Magdalen that she has earned a respect which cannot be awarded to her during the period that she continued to be the King's mistress, or during the four years that she spent in the company of the new concubine.

If romance and sentimentality have combined to conceal the true character of La Vallière, prejudice has cruelly treated a mistress of the succeeding king, De Pompadour. On the other hand, De Pompadour has been far too extravagantly lauded, and Mr. Baker goes a long way on this extravagant road. The later mistress has an excuse that cannot be pleaded for La Vallière, whose mother felt disgraced by the elevation of her daughter, with whom she was not reconciled till she took the veil. But the mother of the beautiful Jeanne Poisson pronounced her, from her earliest years, to be "a morsel for a king." The daughter succeeded in becoming what her mother had prepared her to be; but she was also something more. Much has been said of the education and accomplishments of the Pompadour, but we suspect that this lady, as an artist,

owed very much, like Count d'Orsay, to the aid and suggestions of professional artists. We are bound, however, to say that there is some difference of opinion on this point. Madame de Pompadour has never wanted defenders. M. Courajod, in his edition of the 'Livre Journal de Lazare Duvaux, Marchand bijoutier ordinaire du roy, 1748-58,' says that in matters of art the Marquise detested everything vulgar and commonplace; that every object of the furniture of her rooms was remarkable for taste and originality; that she gave her own designs to the best sculptors for the *monture* of her porcelain; and that her caskets, plate-boxes, and even her spoons, were made according to her own patterns. She let slip, we are told, no opportunity of purchasing what was rich and rare in ornamentation. China and Japan contributed their most valuable art-productions in porcelain and bronze to adorn her saloons, and Cochin, Soufflot, and Gabriel were among her most favoured *protégés*. No doubt if any one in her own time had called the trumpery and tasteless things by the name now often given to them, "Style Pompadour," the Marquise would have issued a *lettre de cachet*, and clapt the libeller of her taste into the Bastille. A religious writer, M. Galitzin, is as tender as such a writer can be on Madame de Pompadour's easy virtue, and consoles himself by saying that "au point de vue de l'art, la Marquise fut irréprochable." This is something like Nell Gwynne piquing herself on the Protestant quality of her naughtiness. It is easy to understand why the most orthodox writers in France are so gentle with the Pompadour. She saved appearances by taking a Jesuit—rather a jovial one—for her confessor; and, as often as Passion Week came round, she absented herself from the royal palace for the whole week. Such decency was considered quite edifying in French Society.

Her mother, old Madame Poisson, was said to have possessed "l'esprit comme quatre diables." She had the wit to train her daughter, like a Greek courtesan, in literature and art. When the daughter married M. d'Étioles, she did not forget the maternal designs nor the object of her own ambition. "I will never be unfaithful to you," said the too candid bride, "except in favour of the King of France." When the hour for such favour came, and the young lady was installed as the King's mistress, her sick and exemplary mother turned up her eyes to Heaven, like Mother Cole in Foote's farce, thanked Providence for fulfilling all her wishes, and died in a fit of pious ecstasy. When the King purchased for his mistress the estate which carried with it the title of Marquise de Pompadour, the Queen received her at dinner, in honour of the occasion. Precious examples of French Society!

Woman for woman, Pompadour was superior to La Vallière in many respects. The latter, ignorant, witless, but charming in her veil of modesty so gracefully worn, has left no trace of useful influence. La Pompadour, on the other hand, has left such traces on all sides. She was the friend of artists, authors, musical composers,—among them were Marmontel, Crébillon père, Voltaire, Pigalle, and Gluck. She designed the new Paris which Louis Napoleon nearly completed; and, under her auspices, the Sèvres porcelain became the

most celebrated in Europe. She has the repute of having started the École Militaire. If she squandered millions of francs on her palace and gardens of Belle Vue, the money passed to such men as Falconet, Constan, Adam, Verbreck, and Pigalle, the sculptors, and to such painters as Boucher, Vanloo, Oudry, Pierre, and Vernet. That she drew plans of campaigns and arranged the operations of armies, as Mr. Baker asserts, we do not believe; but she is said, in some way, to have helped the French to gain the battle of Laffeldt; and bad as her foreign policy was, she contrasts favourably with Voltaire when the Prussians beat the French at Rosbach. He was so little of a patriot (as was to be expected of a man who described Jeanne d'Arc as infamous), that he wrote a congratulatory letter to Frederick on his victory over Voltaire's countrymen.

Mr. Baker is not saying too much when he remarks that "to her taste and talent France owes the first impetus which has since made her pre-eminent in art-manufactures." But when Mr. Baker allows Madame de Pompadour's own assertion to pass unquestioned, namely, that no preceding royal mistress had thought of amusing and honourably employing the listless, gloomy sovereign, we should remind him that Madame de Tournelle,—the third of the three sisters who had reached the bad eminence,—forced the King into active life at the head of his armies, and displayed her own brilliant beauty in the camp as Duchesse de Châteauneuf. The fact is that all those questionable ladies thought it their first duty to amuse the reigning monarch. Even De Maintenon accomplished the hard task of amusing a king who was not amusable, and Molière felt that a similar office had to be fulfilled by a royal poet. How gracefully he expresses it in his dedication of 'Les Fâcheux' to Louis the Fourteenth:—"Ceux qui sont nés en un rang élevé, peuvent se proposer l'honneur de servir VOTRE MAJESTÉ, dans les grands emplois; mais, pour moi, toute la gloire où je puis aspirer, c'est de la réjouir." For the *réjouissance* of her Most Christian King, Pompadour spared no pains or outlay. It was more for her own delight than his, perhaps, that she surrounded herself, in addition to those already named, by such men as Fontenelle, Cahusac, Montesquieu, and Maupeituis. She was no doubt moved by flattery, as she was implacable to satire. The great Frederick called her "Capitaine Cotillon"; and, though she did not really project the Seven Years' War, she made of France the bitter enemy of Prussia. Maria Theresa, on the other hand, addressed her as "ma cousine," and the mistress put the friendly hand of France into that of Austria. The great Empress was a little ashamed of "ma cousine," but she got over it. "I have stooped," she said, "to flatter Farinelli; why should I hesitate to praise Pompadour?" Pompadour's gallant Abbé de Bernis, raised to the dignity of Cardinal and the office of Minister of Foreign Affairs, served his mistress well at Vienna. Her pet name for him was her "pigeon."

The roar of the deluge was heard by her before she died in 1764. The cry of the people was loud against her unparalleled extravagance. Epigrams were flung in at her very windows. Her arrogance never gave way; and she was remorseless in her

revenge wreaked against any one who offended her. And yet, at the last, when she was mortally ill, Fashion adopted the *négligé* in which she reclined on a couch in her bed-chamber; kinder to her than her late lover, who coolly remarked, on the very wet day of her funeral, that Madame la Marquise had nasty weather for her journey! Notwithstanding worse things than faults, Madame la Marquise de Pompadour was almost regretted after the accession of the vulgar Madame du Barri.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Nathaniel Vaughan. By Frederika Macdonald. 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

A Chronicle of the Fermors: Horace Walpole in Love. By M. F. Mahony (Matthew Stradling). 2 vols. (Low & Co.)

MRS. MACDONALD has illustrated a repulsive subject by strong lights and shadows. All those ducklings who, unconscious of the shell upon their backs, are much exercised by the problem of existence, will welcome her book as a contribution to sceptical literature. We are more inclined to regard her as a sheep in wolf's clothing, and are glad to think that, though she would repudiate the title, she is probably a very excellent Christian. She is certainly not the less *en rapport* with religion for showing how Christianity of a certain type is liable to degenerate into a very immoral and crushing superstition. That there is no halfway house between the strictest Catholicism and the vaguest good intentions to humanity, is a necessary postulate to support her thesis. Those who find this rather startling in a world of compromises will make allowances accordingly. Nathaniel Vaughan, "priest and man," is, in the latter capacity, a very furnace of mundane passion; in the former, a devoted partisan of a narrow school of theology. There is a good deal of power in the way in which the struggle between his creed and his feelings is described; and, in spite of some rhapsody and balderdash, we find our sympathies moved by Hugh's generous enthusiasm for his kind. Miss Fay, the unorthodox young lady who rejoices in having no soul, is a graceful figure, though her cruelty to the clergyman and tendency to stilted soliloquy are shocking in one so fair; and little Winifred, who dies under her uncle's repressive system and the hatred of his pet maid-servant, is a most pathetic victim. Faith Daintree, in her way, is as powerful a character as Vaughan himself. In her the passionate nature is far more sensual, and repressed by no genuine principle, only by the exterior trappings of belief which Vaughan has imposed upon her, and which she wears with half-conscious hypocrisy. Hers is a mean, his a noble, wreck of large capacities. The masculine gift of moderation and self-control is wanting in every character in the book. Theory and practice are alike in the falsest of extremes, and the people and the views admirably suited to each other. The book is clever, though; and a most suggestive description of the modes of thought which drive weak mortals into La Trappe on the one hand, or the dogmatism of negation on the other.

The Fermor baronetcy and the Pomfret earlship have vanished. The Northamptonshire country gentleman whom Charles the First made a baronet was succeeded by a son, of

whom "great Nassau" made a peer, Lord Leominster. It was Baron Leominster's son who was raised to the dignity of Earl of Pomfret, by George the First, in 1721. There were five of those earls. The last of them died in 1867, without heirs, and all the titles concentrated in the family became extinct. The Earls of Pomfret were not a distinguished race. The most remarkable of them was the third Earl, who, in 1801, was bound over to keep the peace towards his wife, the daughter of Trollope Brown. Before he married, this lord was not a promising personage. His mother agreed to pay all his debts, if he would give a truthful list of such liabilities. After she had contributed the necessary sum, in the list furnished by him, she discovered daily that new claims were made upon her, and she wrote to her son on the subject. The hopeful gentleman, in his reply, said that he could compare himself only to Cerberus, "who, when one head was cut off, another sprung up in its room." This, as Walpole remarks, "was a very new piece of mythology." So much for the men. The women who married into the family were more remarkable; and the most remarkable of the Countesses was the wife of the first Earl. She was a daughter of John, Lord Jeffreys of Wem, who was a son of the too celebrated Judge Jeffreys. This union improved neither the "blood" nor the constitution of the Fermors. If Lord Leominster made Miss Jeffreys a baroness, his wife well repaid him by making her husband an earl, through sheer perseverance in insisting on it. "My earl!" she used to call her submissive and unambitious lord. She was regardless of expense in procuring honours for him. She paid Lady Sundon 1,400*l.*, in the form of a pair of diamond earrings, for procuring for him the appointment of Master of the Horse to Queen Caroline. When Lady Mary W. Montague saw the rings in Lady Sundon's ears, she naturally remarked that people could only know where wine was sold by the sign being hung out.

Lady Pomfret is best known by her correspondence with Lady Hertford. Whether she translated Froissart without help, or wrote a life, or any part of a life, of Vandyck, we very much doubt, though she may have pretended to do both. As a sample of her ignorance, a tale was told of her in her own time, according to which, when people were discussing if the term "court" applied to the King's court alone or whether it was equally applicable to Carlton House, where Frederick Prince of Wales had taken up his residence, Lady Pomfret settled the matter by remarking, "Oh, Lord! is there no court in England but the King's? Isn't there the Court of Chancery? the Court of Exchequer? the Court of King's Bench?" It was on occasion of telling this story of Lady Pomfret to Mann that Walpole (1741) spoke of her daughter, the celebrated beauty, Lady Sophia Fermor. "Lord Lincoln loves her," wrote Walpole. "He is come over. He met her the other night. He turned pale, spoke to her several times in the evening (they had met before, in Florence), but not long, and sighed to me at going away." This is the beginning of a love-story of the last century, which may be traced to its end in Walpole's letters. Ten days later the young couple, in whose hearts very tender affinities had developed themselves on the banks of the Arno, met at a ball at Sir

Thomas Robinson's. "Lord Lincoln," says Walpole, "out of prudence, danced with Lady Caroline Fitzroy, and Mr. Conway with Lady Sophia (Fermor). The two couple were just mis-matched, as everybody soon perceived, by the attentions of each man to the woman he did not dance with, and the emulation of either lady. It was an admirable scene." In those days lovers were not despairing. The ball was over at three, but about sixteen fine gentlemen, among whom were Lord Lincoln, Lord Holderness, and other worshippers of Lady Sophia, "grew jolly, stayed till seven in the morning, and drank thirty-two bottles." Again ten days, and Walpole was able to tell Mann, "I have scarce seen Lady Pomfret lately, but I am quite sure Lord Lincoln is not going to marry her daughter." At the royal masquerade, in the following February, the grandest ever seen in England, we are told that "Lady Sophia was in a Spanish dress; so was Lord Lincoln; not, to be sure, by design; but so it happened." The love-passages between this pair were sincere enough, but their course did not run smooth. In November, 1742, the alleged schemes of the mother came to nothing. Hope did not die out all at once; but in June, 1743, Lady Sophia was "at the gasp of her hopes," for Lord Lincoln was about to marry Miss Pelham, by particular desire of his uncle, the Duke of Newcastle, and with the understanding that he was to have all that the Duke and Mr. Pelham could give or settle on him and the bride. And so it came to pass; but there was another marriage,—the Ariadne of the story wedded in the spring of 1744 with old Lord Carteret, who soon after became Earl Granville. Walpole rejoiced at it, for he took just measure of Lincoln's worthlessness; and he remarked, "her beauty and cleverness did deserve a better fate than she was on the point of having determined for her for ever. How graceful, how charming, and how haughtily condescending she will be. How, if Lincoln should ever hint past history, she will

Stare upon the strange man's face,
As one she ne'er had known."

Before the wedding took place Lady Sophia fell dangerously ill of scarlet fever, and Quixote, as Walpole calls Carteret, of the gout. They corresponded, however, daily, and Lord Carteret used to plague the Cabinet Council by reading her letters to him. When both were well again, they were married, at night, at Lord Pomfret's. After supper, and every one had gone to bed but the porter, the bridegroom went home, where he waited, in the lodge, for the bride, who followed in a hackney sedan-chair; and, meeting her lord in the hall, he conducted her up stairs to her chamber. The married life was a brief one, and there was too much of affectionate demonstration in public. In October, 1745, Walpole wrote to Mann: "I must tell you what you'll be very sorry for; Lady Granville" (for Lady Sophia Fermor was then a Countess) "is dead. She had a fever for six weeks before her lying-in, and could never get it off. . . . About seven in the evening, as Lady Pomfret and Lady Charlotte Fermor were sitting by her, the first notice they had of her immediate danger was her sighing, and saying: 'I feel death come very fast upon me!' She repeated the same words frequently, remained perfectly in her senses, and died about eleven at night."

Such was the end of an eighteenth-century love-story. Walpole tells it briefly and well in a few scattered pages of his letters, and Mr. Mahony has thoroughly spoiled it by stretching it wearily and drearily into two volumes of nearly seven hundred pages. He has given it a second title, 'Horace Walpole in Love,' and the portrait of Horace figures as a frontispiece. There is no foundation whatever for the absurd supposition that Walpole was a lover of Lady Sophia, and there is nothing even in this book to authorize the assertion on the title-page. What Mr. Mahony intends in this work, we cannot conjecture. It is not history,—it is not a novel,—it is not an historical romance,—it is not a picture of the times. It seems to be an attempt at all three, and a failure in each attempt. Mr. Mahony is unable to find in Walpole's letters any ground for asserting that Horace was in love with Lady Sophia, but he gets over it by making such a remark as, "It will be seen that Walpole did not faithfully chronicle all his impressions," &c. Unsatisfactory as the author or compiler or maker of this book may be, he is at his worst when he takes to make reflections, except when he furnishes properties for his scenes. An "ophicleide" was not a musical instrument to be found in a village about 1742; and it is not possible that at the same period the Duke of Newcastle's chamberlain could have asked Lord Lincoln if he would like to look at "the *Annual Register*, the last number just out." The first number of the *Register* was not out till 1758, and we can hardly suppose that early copies even of that were at the Duke's twelve or sixteen years before. We question, too, if there was any mother of the last or of any century who would deserve to be painted after the fashion in which Mr. Mahony paints Lady Pomfret and her daughter. The conversation is about Lord Lincoln:—

"I think he almost deserves you, my queen; if any man in England could deserve you, Lincoln does. Come! go back to the beginning and tell me everything about yourself. You do look pale, but 'tis with happiness. Ah! 'happiness,' there is no cosmetic like it.—'Yes, I am very happy. There is no one like him, as you say; such a noble nature, such sentiments—' Lady Sophia stopped. 'He is everything that you could desire, mamma; there is no one like him,' she repeated, coming to a full stop.—'Fortunately we are not looking out for another of the same pattern at present,' answered the Countess, gaily; 'and as to his perfections, they are admitted. But my old ears are hungry to suck in your dainty secrets. I want to taste the sweet poison of lovers' vows once more. Who knows if the gentlemen of your day are as brisk and tender as were the gallants of ours? Alas! old fright that I am now, who would imagine that I had ever been sentimental and a coquette—who would believe it? Your father was never much of a serenader at any time, it is true, but he was not my first lover, there were others. Alas! I should blush to boast of it, perhaps, but there were. The fashion then was so, and one did not like to put up for being better than other people, like that old saint Lady Barbara, who never in her best day had much temptation to be anything else but a saint. Things are improved since in matters of sentiment, and I approve of the change; people marry from affection now and not according to the odious foreign plan, by arrangement. However, 'tis not every girl who marries her first love. You are very lucky, and such a first love—ah! there is nothing else in life to compare with it, as Mr. Spence the poet said to me in Italy, when the crazy Count with the beautiful eyes went about

singing madrigals to the stars about yours, happy Florence, "O Firenze." I always had a presentiment that something would come of the Ridolfi; there was a fate in your meeting there by accident; but there is no such thing as accident, providence arranged it for us; I think so now. Your happiness has almost made me religious. Come! tell me. Don't continue to keep your doting old mother any longer in suspense, my angel! there is another kiss for you. When, where, how, in what language did he propose? was he modest? shamefaced, I daresay. I trust you did not give him an easy victory."

To readers who cannot find easy access to the works from which Mr. Mahony takes many of his paragraphs,—Walpole, Montagu, and others,—this 'Chronicle' may afford some amusement. There is evidence of some industry, and we reluctantly express an opinion that in the present instance it has been thrown away. Mr. Mahony was overwhelmed by his materials,—amusing where he quotes, he is helpless where he endeavours to make a story out of them. The figures in Walpole's letters are best left alone. They at least are alive. It requires a master-hand to make them live in a story. Mr. Mahony may accomplish this in time, but, at present, he might as well take the skeleton of the negro in the museum of St. Bartholomew's, and that of Jonathan Wild from the College of Surgeons, and, covering them with clothing from a cheap tailor's, make them meet in Holborn, while he calls on the public to acknowledge them as living reproductions of a bygone period.

MINOR POETS.

Lyrics, Legal and Miscellaneous. By the late George Outram, Esq. Edited, with Introductory Notice, by the late Henry Glassford Bell, Esq. (Blackwood & Sons.)

Wayside Pictures, Hymns, and Poems. By John Harris. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.)

Philip Ashton, and other Poems. By Henry Elliot Malden. (Same publishers.)

Alfred: a Poem. (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.)

WE learn from the biographical notice which serves to introduce the reader to Mr. Outram's lyrics, that the latter was born in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, went through the regular curriculum of the University of Edinburgh, and became, in 1827, a member of the Faculty of Advocates. After ten years of legal practice, however, he retired from the bar, and undertook the editorship of the *Glasgow Herald*. Genial by temperament, and of convivial habits, Mr. Outram amused himself in his leisure moments by the composition of a number of songs and lyrics, and their rollicking fun contributed largely to the diversion of the social circle, and to the consequent popularity of their author. But in order to enable English readers to relish the genuine, if often coarse, humour of these ditties, it would have been necessary to furnish this volume with an ample glossary; for without such an aid these poems, written in the dialect of the country, and mainly treating of quaint peculiarities of Scotch law, must in part remain unintelligible. Thus, for example, such pieces as 'The Multiplepointing,' 'Sonmin and Roumin,' 'The Process of Augmentation,' 'Cessio Bonorum,' and others, are replete with allusions to local practices, and with a species of wit probably calculated to afford keen enjoyment to professional lawyers conversant with those minute details that are here selected for ridicule. The gem of the collection, however, is a poem generally intelligible, entitled 'The Annuity,' and which we would like, if it were not for its length, to quote entire. But the introductory verses will serve as a favourable specimen of the author's manner:—

I gazed to spend a week in Fife—
An unco week it proved to be—
For there I met a wasome wife,
Lamentin' her viduity.
Her grief brak out sae fierce and fell,
I thought her heart wad burst the shell,
And—I was sae left to myself—
I sell't her an annuity.

The bargain lookit fair enough,
She just was turned o' sixty-three;
I couldna guess she'd prove sae tough
By human ingenuity.
But years have come, and years have gane,
And there she's yet as stieve's a stane—
The limmer's growin' young again
Since she got her annuity.

Mr. Harris, author of 'Wayside Pictures, Hymns, and Poems,' takes care to inform us that—

Off when my rhyme scrap is complete,
Whatever that scrap may be,
I read it to my critic Jane,
A faithful critic she.

What a pity the author could not rest content with the appreciative strictures of his 'gentle Jane,' but must perforce, prompted by his evil genius, rush into print, thus challenging the opinion of critics of quite another stamp. All that can be said in praise of his verses is that they have a certain facile flow of metre and simplicity of diction, feebly suggestive of Mrs. Hemans and L. E. L. It may also be granted that they invariably express the sentiments of the tenderest husband and best of fathers; but can the kindest disposition be pleaded in extenuation of such an attempt at alliteration? for example:—

So he turned
His old friends on the common, where they failed,
And falling failed, till they could fall no more,
And winter slew them with his sword of frost.

It is but fair to add, however, that there are not many lines so hopelessly bad as this, most of them gliding on in an unbroken stream of mediocrity. As a good specimen of Mr. Harris's style, the following passage may be quoted:—

I see Him in the firmament of stars,
And in the blue of ether, in the clouds
Marshall'd at sunset round the crimson west,
With banners stained with glory: in the leaves
That rustle music to the milk-maid's song.

and so on *ad nauseam*.

Mr. Malden, when at his best, gives us diluted Tennyson; when at his worst, however, he can claim originality, for then he is unlike anyone but himself. 'Philip Ashton,' a narrative poem, in blank verse, is not without occasional beauties of metaphor and description, although, as a whole, the story must be pronounced dull and pointless. The hero, a Virginian by birth, one of the bravest of the Confederate officers, after having lost father, friends, and fortune, in the last sortie from Petersburg, comes over to England, and strives to drown his grief in the riotous pleasures of a town life. Not succeeding in this, he seeks the country, and there—

He wandered, where below
Her wood-crowned banks, and lush-green water-meads
Through many a winding, weed-grown shallow, past
A hundred eyots, the maiden Thames displays
Her honest face. A country lass, before
Meeting the shameless, inland-sweeping sea,
She wanders to and fro, and seeks the town,
All filth and riches floating on her tide.

Here Philip Ashton has the good fortune to rescue a young lady from drowning by seizing hold of her golden hair, and is, in consequence, invited by her grateful brother to pay them a visit in Wales. Now ensues a strange complication of circumstances. For Philip, instead of falling in love, as in honour bound according to every tradition of romance, with the golden-haired girl he had saved, is painfully surprised by meeting in her companion one Madge Armstrong, to whom he had plighted his troth before the vicissitudes of war had intervened and separated them. Their old passion now revives, although the lady struggles against it, in obedience to her father's dying commands. Of course, everybody is supremely wretched, for Tom Gwyn also nourishes a hopeless passion for Madge, and "the pangs of despised love" are described by the author in the following amazing passage:—

And now the demon, "that which might have been,"
Rode on his mind, a fiend than whom more dire
No magic sways, who waiting on the tracks
And round the skirts of ardent enterprise
If any leaps and falls between, will seize,

Clogging his vigour for adventure new,
And like a spider drain his sickened soul.

Who shall unravel the tangle of such a grammatical structure, and say what is the predicate here, and what the thing predicated of? It is a hopeless jumble, in which the sense, if sense there be, is buried under the most incongruous images. But to return to the story. Philip, not being man enough to declare his love, once more sallies forth in the old disconsolate manner, till a telegram summons him to the bed-side of the dying Madge. She has not, like her friend, tumbled into a river, but fallen from the edge of a rock, and the injuries sustained prove mortal. Such is the dismal close of a poem that is occasionally relieved by passages of grace and prettiness of which forcibly remind us, as we have said, of the Laureate's manner.

Execrable verse and tedious mauling are the only qualities characteristic of 'Alfred.' Glancing at such lines as—

But death delayed to come,
For mercy lingers not in hell; and in
The madness of their misery, intense,
Thousands of spirits leaped into the chasm,
Which seemed to open wider, and engulf
Its prey with joy, devouring greedily—

lines flowing on through eighty-seven pages of intermittent dullness and ungrammatical twaddle,—the much-enduring critic might fairly exclaim with Hotspur—

I'd rather be a kitten, and cry—mow,
Than one of those same metre-balled mongers.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. DAVID KER'S *On the Road to Khiva*, which place he never reached, comes to us from Messrs. King & Co. It opens with an apology for the "Old Savage" *Daily Telegraph* episode, which puts as good a face upon the matter as it can be made to present. The book is chiefly an account of Tashkend and Samarcand, brightly written, although the English is a little affected. Mr. Ker is not much of an authority on Central Asia, but he does know Russian peasant life very well indeed, and his bits about the Cossacks are full of character.

MR. WILLIAM SARGANT, of Birmingham, sends us a new book, under the title of *Taxation*, which is published by Messrs. Williams & Norgate, and is better than his former ones. It is a somewhat elaborate view of English taxation, and though some of Mr. Sargent's ideas are fanciful, his work on the whole is not unsound.

"God bless you, dear ghost! Your letter is much sweet than the last one, I will sleep upon during a long time."—is a fair specimen of the English in *Lettres de l'Inconnue*: a bold attempt to win circulation, by a travesty of the 'Lettres à une Inconnue,' which have lately been perplexing Paris. The London publishers are Messrs. Dulau & Co.

MESSRS. A. & R. MILNE, of Aberdeen, have published, as a small pamphlet of two dozen pages, a lecture given by Prof. Geddes, of that city, to the Celtic Society of the University, *On the Philological Uses of the Celtic Tongue*, which will be read with interest and profit by many who are not Celts, and care nothing for Celtic, illustrating, as it does, many most interesting points in Greek and Latin, as well as in Comparative Philology. To this the Professor shows that Celtic can make as important contribution (of many of which he gives specimens) as any of the other Aryan languages, and as fully deserves recognition and study. Its evidence as to ancient Latin pronunciation, and, we may add, what the Professor does not, to Early English pronunciation, is of deep interest. Prof. Geddes is fully up in the latest Celtic scholarship of Germany, and his brochure looks like the streak of dawn upon a coming day of Celtic scholarship in North Britain. May it come speedily! the night has been both long and dark.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Andrews's (Bishop) *Manual for the Sick*, 3rd edit. 32mo. 2/6 d.
Andrews's (J.) *Psychology of Scripturalism*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 d.
Dodd's (J. T.) *Sayings Ascribed to Our Lord*, 12mo. 3/4 d.
Kempis's *Imitation of Christ*, new edit. 12mo. 2/6 d.

Newman's
cr. 8vo.
Bedcliffe
Talmage's
Twenty-
Vaughan
Chur
Vaughan
2nd ed.
Words of

Holmes
Rawlinson
Will

Amusing
Brook
Dobson's
Religious
Smith's

Adams's
Burns's
Campbell
Vols

Palmer's
Robertson
Rale's (V)

Hare's (A)
Thompson
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Bacon's
Denogee
Hall's (T)

Sophistic
Abb
Thomson
by J

Treasury

Bain's (A)
Chapman
Cooke's

Cooke's
Flint's (A)
Harris's

Liverpool
8vo.
Maclean

Physiology
J. H
Plickering
8vo.

Practition
Spencer's
Transact

Tyson's (C)

Against
Baxter's
Burns's (C)

Burritt's
Clayden's
Coleridge

Company
Crump's
Digby's

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Powell (C)
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Newman's (J. H.) Lectures on Doctrine of Justification, 3rd edit. cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Bedell's Why am I a Christian? 5th edit. 12mo. 3/6 cl.
 Palmer's (Rev. T. de Witt) Burning Words, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
 Twenty-Nine Plain Sermons, ed. by Rt. Rev. W. Meade, 3/6 cl.
 Vaughan's (C. J.) Words of Hope from Pulpit of Temple Church, 3rd edit. cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Vaughan's (Rev. J.) Addresses to Children, cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.; 2nd Series, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
 Words of Hope and Comfort to Those in Sorrow, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.

Laws

Holdsworth's Law of Bills, 12mo. 1/6 bds.
 Rawlinson's (J.) Guide to Solicitors on Taking Instructions for Wills, 8vo. 4/6 cl.

Poetry

Amusing Poetry, a Selection, edited, with Preface, by Shirley Brooks, new edit. 12mo. 3/6 cl.
 Dobson's (A.) Vignettes in Rhyme, 2nd edit. 12mo. 5/6 cl.
 Religious Poems, by Author of 'Stepping Heavenward,' 3/6 cl.
 Smith's (R. P.) Hymns, selected from Faber, 12mo. 5/6 cl.

History

Adams's (F. O.) History of Japan, 8vo. 21/6 cl.
 Burns's (W.) Scottish War of Independence, 2 vols. 8vo. 26/6 cl.
 Campbell's Lives of the Chief Justices of England, 3rd edit. Vols. 1 and 2. cr. 8vo. 6/6 each, 1/6 cl.
 Palmer's (E. H.) History of the Jewish Nation, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Robertson's (J. C.) History of Christian Church, new edit. Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Rale's (W. H.) History of the Inquisition, 2 vols. 8vo. 25/6 cl.

Geography

Hare's (A. J. C.) Walks in Rome, 4th edit. 2 vols. 21/6 cl.
 Thighe's (N. L.) Spain and the Spanishs, 2 vols. 21/6 cl.
 Voll Hellwald's Russians in Central Asia, cr. 8vo. 12/6 cl.

Philology

Bacon's Essays, Twenty of, edit. with Notes by F. Storr, 1/6 cl.
 Demogorgon's History of French Literature, by C. Bridge, 3/6 cl.
 Hall's (T. D.) Child's First Latin Book, 12mo. 1/6 cl.
 Sophocles' Œdipus Colonus, with Notes by Campbell and Abbott, 12mo. 10/6 cl.
 Thomson's Seasons, Winter, with Life of Author, and Notes by J. F. Bright, 12mo. 1/6 cl.
 Treasury of Language, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl. 1p.

Science

Bain's (A.) Mind and Body, 3rd edit. cr. 8vo. 4/6 cl.
 Chapman's (J.) Diarrhoea and Cholera, 2nd edit. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
 Cooke's (J. P.) New Chemistry, cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Cooke's (J. P.) Principles of Chemical Philosophy, 3rd edit. 12/6 cl.
 Flint's (A.) Principles and Practice of Medicine, 4th edit. 24/6 cl.
 Harris's (Rev. J.) Key to Graduated Exercises in Arithmetic and Mensuration, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Liverpool and Manchester Medical and Surgical Reports, 1874, 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Madan's (A.) Training in Theory and Practice, 2nd edit. 6/6 cl.
 Physiology for Practical Use, by Various Writers, edited by J. Hinton, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 12/6 cl.
 Pickering's (E. C.) Elements of Physical Manipulation, Pt. 1, 8vo. 10/6 cl.
 Practitioner (The), Vol. 11, 8vo. 10/6 cl.

General Literature

Spencer's (H.) Study of Sociology, 3rd edit. cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Transactions of Obstetrical Society of London, Vol. 15, 15/6 cl.
 Tyson's (J.) Introduction to Study of Practical Histology, 4/6 cl.
 Against the Stream, cheap edit. cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Baxter's (R. D.) Local Government and Taxation, 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Burns's (J.) Select Remains, ed. by Rev. J. C. Burns, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
 Burnitt's (E.) Ten Minutes' Talk on all Sorts of Topics, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Clenden's (A.) Revolt of the Field, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
 Coleridge's (S.) Phantasmon, a Fairy Tale, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
 Companion to the Writing-Desk, new edit. 32mo. 1/6 cl.
 Crump's (A.) Theory of Stock Exchange Speculation, 8vo. 10/6 cl.
 Digby's (K. H.) Temple of Memory, 12mo. 5/6 cl.
 English Catalogue of Books for 1873, 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Fall of Prince Florestan of Monaco, by Himself, 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Gordon's (Mrs.) Child Women, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
 Hardwick's Poetage, Baronage, Knightsage, House of Commons, 1874, 32mo. 1/6 each, cl. swd.; complete, 1 vol. 32mo. 5/6 cl.
 Hugo's (V.) Les Misérables, cr. 8vo. 2/6 bds.
 Little Bits for Working Men, 8vo. 1/6 cl.
 Low's Handbook to the Charities of London, 1874, 12mo. 1/6 cl.
 Marryat's (Capt.) Monsieur Violet, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Myers's (F.) Lectures on Great Men, 6th edit. cr. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
 Nichols's (T. L.) How to Behave, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
 Powell (Mary.) Maiden and Married Life of, 5th edit. 2/6 cl.
 Robinson's (F. W.) Second Cousin Sarah, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
 Spencer's (H.) Essays, Scientific, Political, and Speculative, Vol. 3, cr. 8vo. 6/6 cl.
 Three Venerable Ladies of England on Church Politics, complete, 12mo. 4/6 cl.
 Waring's (J. R.) The State, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
 Willow Brook, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

A WARNING.

5, Fumival's Inn, Holborn.

MAY I, through your influential columns, caution my fellow literary men of the metropolis against a man who is going about London, obtaining advances of money on a certain valuable manuscript, which he pretends a person at Reading is anxious to sell? In the case of a gentleman connected with St. Paul's School, the "Reading Man's" *modus operandi* was the following. From the *modus* I am inclined to think the rogue has an equally intelligent and equally rascally confederate: On the 16th of February the gentleman aforesaid receives a letter by post from a probably pseudo Mr. Jackson, 17, Friar Street, Reading, offering the gentleman, who is fond of literature, a valuable manuscript for sale. The gentleman responded, and, on the 19th of February, a

plausible person calls at St. Paul's School, presents himself as the agent of a lady at Reading, and, by various ingenious pretexts, obtains "earnest-money" to the amount of 10s. 6d., on the distinct understanding that the manuscript should be forwarded the next day, when a second half-guinea was to be paid. Need I say that the "reading man" has not yet re-appeared.

WALTER THORNBURY.

P.S. My indignation at such a wolf in sheep's clothing (or rather, I might say, bound in calf) is, perhaps, increased by the fact that he represented himself at St. Paul's School as the cousin of your humble servant.

UNSUSPECTED CORRUPTIONS OF SHAKESPEARE'S TEXT.

BEFORE dismissing the vilely-printed edition of the Sonnets, 4to. 1609, the only "authentic" version of them, unfortunately, which has come down to us, I would direct the attention of those critics who assume that most of these effusions were addressed to a person of higher rank than the poet's, to the opening of No. cxxv:—

Were't aught to me I bore the canopy,
 With my extern the outward honouring;

Here there is an unmistakable allusion to an installation of some kind, whether literal or metaphorical is not of much moment. It clearly implies that the individual addressed had undergone, or was of sufficient eminence to undergo, such ceremony. The allusion, however, appears to have been not generally understood, owing to a slight misprint in the second line.

With my extern the outward honouring;
 hardly reflects the poet's meaning; but let us read,—

With my extern thy outward honouring,

or,—

—the outward honouring,

and we have some pageant in which the writer's friend had played, or might befittingly play, the leading part, and also the appropriate antithesis to a subsequent line,—

No;—let me be obsequious in thy heart;

—distinctly brought to view. The obvious interpretation being, "Would it have availed me aught if I had paid homage to your personal dignity by assisting to carry the canopy over you? No; such external compliment costs more than it is worth: let me show reverence to your affection rather than to your rank."

For the use of "outward" in the sense of exterior personality, compare—

O that I thought it could be in a woman—
 As, if it can, I will presume in you—
 To feed for aye her lamp and flames of love;
 To keep her constancy in plight and youth,
 Outliving beauty's outward, &c.

Prothus and Cressida, A. iii. sc. 2.

and,—

—I do not think
 So fair an outward and such stuff within
 Endows a man but he.—*Cymbeline*, Act I. sc. 1.

I desire also to ask those of my Correspondents who, in their veneration for the old text, are so ready to defend any of its monstrosities, what they make of Sonnets lxxvii. and cxxiv. Can they for a moment believe that Shakespeare ever wrote such incoherencies as they contain? To me there appear almost as many perversions of his meaning in each as there are lines.

Turning to the *Amoretti*, those Sonnets supposed to be addressed to a Mistress, which begin at No. cxxvii., we find them strikingly inferior to those addressed to his friend. It is difficult to believe, indeed, after reading Nos. cxxxv., cxxxvi., cxliv., and cli., that there is any deep feeling underlying them.

No. cxlii. contains a noticeable, though hitherto unobserved, misprint; and the whole of it is curious if we could believe these latter compositions have anything of an autobiographical character:—

Love is my sin, and thy dear virtue hate;
 Hate of my love, grounded on sinful loving:
 O, but with mine compare thou mine own state,
 And thou shalt find it merits not reproving;
 Or, if it do, not from those lips of thine,
 That have profan'd their scarlet ornaments
 And seal'd false bonds of love as oft as mine,
 Robb'd others' beds' revenues of their rents.

Be it lawful I love thee, as thou lov'st those
 Whom thine eyes woo as mine importune thee.
 Root pity in thy heart, that when it grows,
 Thy pity may deserve to pitied be.
 If thou dost seek to have what thou dost hide
 By self-example may'st thou be denied!

In the last line but one we should unhesitatingly read—

If thou dost seek to have what thou dost hide.

The construction may be thus expressed: "You account my love of you to be a sin, and make it a virtue in you to hate that love, as a sinful passion. But if you compare your own condition with mine, you will find you have no right to reproach me, since you are equally guilty of forbidden love. Consider my illicit passion, then, as lawful as your own, and take pity on it; for if you seek to enjoy yourself that which you condemn in me, your own example may cause you to meet denial."

By the way, in relation to this Sonnet, it is surprising that Mr. Armitage Brown and others who take these *Amoretti au sérieux*, and who are disturbed to find the poet addressing a Mistress, "while he had a wife of his own," should not have detected the additional enormity of this Mistress having a husband of her own, which the lines just quoted, not less than the following in Sonnet clii., unequivocally imply:—

In loving thee thou know'st I am forsworn,
 But thou art twice forsworn to me love swearing:
 In act thy bed-vow broke, and new faith torn,
 In vowing new hate after new love bearing.

Passing from the first edition of the Sonnets, in the publication of which Shakespeare had no concern, to that of the 'Venus and Adonis,' and of the 'Lucrece,' both of which were doubtless printed under his supervision, is a great relief. The first has an error in every few lines; the other two are almost as exempt from typographical mistakes as any fairly printed book of their time.

The contrast is painfully suggestive of how much we have lost by his not living to collect and publish his dramatic works.

In reading stanza 74 of 'Venus and Adonis,'—

Say that the sense of feeling were bereft me,
 And that I could not see, nor hear, nor touch,
 And nothing but the very smell were left me,
 Yet would my love to thee be still as much;
 For from the still'tory of thy face exelling,
 Comes breath perfume that breedeth love by smelling,

it at one time occurred to me that line 443 might originally have read,—

For from the still'tory of thy face exelling,
 Comes breath, &c.

But although in these poems we have many very licentious rhymes, as,—*unlikely, quickly; voice, juice; ear, hair; gone, sun; beast, blest*, and the like, I question now whether Shakespeare's delicate sense could have tolerated the cacophony of

—exhaling
 —smelling.

In stanza 85; speaking of the lips and breath of Adonis after he had kissed her, Venus exclaims,—

Long may they kiss each other for this cure!
 O, never let their crimson liveries wear!
 And as they last their verdure still endure,
 To drive infection from the dangerous year!
 That the stargazers, having writ by death,
 May say, the plague is banish'd by thy breath.

"Verdure" in line 507 sounds very like a sophistication. What has "verdure" to do with crimson lips? Read, I think,—

And as they last, their virtue still endure,

It is the efficacy or virtue of her love's breath she invokes to expel infection. "Verdure," it is true, in the sense of freshness and youth, may possibly have been the poet's word; but his use of *virtue* to imply essential efficacy is so frequent, and in this place is so peculiarly appropriate, that I strongly believe it to be the true reading. Compare the 188th and 189th stanzas of this poem, beginning at line 1129:—

She lifts the coffer-lids that close his eyes,
 Where, lo, two lamps burnt out, in darkness lies!
 Two glasses, where herself herself beheld
 A thousand times, and now no more reflect;
 Their virtue lost,—

Compare too:—

If you had known the virtue of the ring,
The Merchant of Venice, act v. sc. 1.

and,—

—for you'll be rotten ere you be half ripe, and that's the right virtue of the medlar.—*As You Like It*, act iii. sc. 2.

So, speaking of the miraculous power of the English king in curing the *Evil* by his touch, the Doctor in 'Macbeth,' act iv. sc. 3, says—

With this strange virtue
He hath a heavenly gift of prophecy.

So, Laertes, in 'Hamlet,' act iv. sc. 5.—

—tears seven times salt,
Burn out the sense and virtue of mine eye.

And,—most immediate to the purpose,—King Claudius in the same play, act iv. sc. 7, says:—

The queen his mother
Lives almost by his looks; for myself—
My virtue or my plague—
This so conjunctive to my life and soul,
That, &c.

I have not marked any other uncorrected errors in this poem, or in the 'Lucrece,' and propose in my next to return to the plays. H. STAUNTON.

ALBANY FONBLANQUE.

49, St. George's Road, Eccleston Square.

ALLOW me to correct a misapprehension, into which a writer in your journal appears to have fallen regarding me. In the review of 'The Life and Labours of Albany Fonblanque' he is said to have gone on writing until I became the proprietor and editor of the *Examiner*. In the year 1865 my valued and lamented friend asked me to aid him in obtaining a purchaser; I did so, and guaranteed a portion of the payment. But I never became the proprietor or editor. Prof. Morley continued to act in the latter capacity for some time. On his resignation another contributor to the journal took his place. And the ownership eventually devolved by purchase on a gentleman well known in the world of letters.

W. M. TORRENS.

IN your notice in last week's *Athenæum*, you speak with such generous appreciation of Mr. Albany Fonblanque, that I would not for a moment complain of your calling attention to my own shortcomings; but you accuse me of one or two blunders of which I am not guilty.

It was, as you say, Mr. James Clay to whom Mr. Disraeli alludes as being on a visit with him; but the letter I have quoted on p. 36 is from Sir William Clay, M.P. for Tower Hamlets. It was dated from Fulwell Lodge, where James Clay never lived, and written (as shown by the postmark) three months before the date of Mr. Disraeli's letter. If you will refer to it you will see that writing in the third person he calls himself Mr. W. Clay.

Again, I did not refer to either Clay as holding office under Mr. Disraeli, but to Edward Bulwer, whose letter forms part of the correspondence to which my remarks applied.

You are quite right about Sir W. Molesworth and other errors into which I have fallen, and this makes me all the more anxious to be acquitted where I am not in fault. E. B. DE FONBLANQUE.

** The letter of Sir William Clay immediately follows that of Mr. Disraeli, which ends with a reference to his friend Mr. Clay, not named James Clay; and with no explanation from Mr. Fonblanque, we could only infer that he regarded Sir William as Mr. Disraeli's friend. The date of Sir W. Clay's letter is not given in the book. And the reference to "one who subsequently became a prominent member of Mr. Disraeli's Cabinet," further described as "going out of his way to support a Radical newspaper," immediately follows Sir William Clay's letter. Mr. E. L. Bulwer was at that time a Radical, and the description was not applicable to him; and we confess that we did not think of him: he has so many higher claims to remembrance than his having been a member of Lord Derby's Cabinet, not, by the way, Mr. Disraeli's.

NOTES FROM FLORENCE.

I MAY begin with a preliminary remark on the rôle which Italy is, it seems to me, likely to play among civilized nations. Surely, of all historical races, the Italian has shown the most consistency. Overwhelmed in the fifth century by

the weight of her own grandeur, she was still not destroyed. She assimilated the new forces which threatened to crush her, and in the Middle Ages she renewed her youth. But she wasted her strength in a century and took no thought for the morrow. The result was her enslavement. Now-a-days, when we Italians find a vice deeply rooted in our body politic, we attribute it to the corrupt domination that oppressed us: but this is a mere makeshift to avoid confessing the faults which led to our misfortunes. Our slavery has had its advantages. It has cured us of the idea of a universal empire, which was the ruin of the Romans. We possess a lovely climate and a lovely country, and our people are intelligent. We desire to live peaceably, and to attract all who do not find in their own countries calm and repose. Foreigners used thirty years ago to arrive at one or other of two contradictory verdicts about Italy. Either they looked on the Italians as *carbonari*, and, expecting at each instant a revolutionary outbreak, they pronounced the country a volcano from one end to the other; or they took no heed of living Italy, and, devoting themselves to our museums, our catacombs, and our ruins, they pronounced Italy to be one vast tomb. But Italy is neither. We have an illustrious past, and that saves us from any need to seek to win fame. Our only wish is for peace, and we should be thankful would Europe declare our country neutral, and thus enable us to dispense with the army which is our financial ruin.

A learned and able German, M. Karl Hillebrand, has lately sought an asylum amongst us. Born in Hesse Darmstadt, M. Hillebrand studied law at Heidelberg; but having got involved in the revolutionary turmoil of 1848, he took refuge in France, and he became the secretary of Henri Heine. After the poet's death, M. Hillebrand went to Bordeaux, where he delivered lectures; but seeing that a degree was necessary if he wished to take a position in France, he went through the necessary curriculum. Although nominated Professor at Douai, he preferred to settle in Paris, and his ability as a critic was soon remarked. By the advice of Ste.-Beuve, who had a high opinion of him, he devoted himself to the criticism of contemporary literature, and contributed to the *Débats* and the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. The war of 1870 forced him against his wish to quit the country of his adoption; and as, in spite of numerous offers, he did not choose to return to Germany, he took up his abode in our city. He declined to accept the Chair of Modern Languages which it was proposed to establish on his account at the Istituto di Studi Superiori; but he has been delivering a course of gratuitous lectures on Goethe's 'Faust.' These lectures, which have been attended by the *élite* of Florentine society, prove M. Hillebrand to be both an eloquent speaker and a discerning critic. Besides giving these lectures, M. Hillebrand is collecting the materials for a Quarterly Review, the editorship of which has been entrusted to him by a Viennese publisher. The review will be written in German, and is intended to make Germany and Italy understand each other better. The contributors will be Germans and Italians.

The last and first months of the year are those in which most books are published, and I have, therefore, many interesting works to mention. Le Monnier has brought out 'Otto Mesi a Roma durante il Concilio Vaticano,' by Pomponio Leto—Pomponio Leto is a *nom de plume* of a well-known Roman Patrician, and Deputy of the Italian Parliament,—and 'Patriæ Amore, canti lirici editi e postumi di Laura Beatrice Mancini-Oliva, con un ragionamento di Terenzio Mamiani.' Madame Mancini, who died at Florence in 1869, was one of the best Neapolitan poetesses. She had much spontaneity, and often vigour. She had followed into exile her husband, Signor Pasquale Stanislao Mancini, now a Deputy, and Professor of International Law at the University of Rome. Signor Emmanuele Cesiola, of Genoa, has brought out the second volume of his 'Storia della Pedagogia Italiana,' while Prof. Vincenzo di Giovanni, of Palermo, has written the 'Storia della Filosofia in

Sicilia.' Signor Nicomede Bianchi has published a life of an Italian statesman and *savant* well known in England, Carlo Matteucci. Signor Bianchi was intimately acquainted with Matteucci, and has had access to the letters of the deceased. With his usual skill, he has produced an extremely instructive and pleasant biography. I have had opportunities before now of praising, in the *Athenæum*, the poetical talents of Signor G. Carducci, who has just brought out an elegant volume of *Scritti Letterarii*. Signor Carducci is not less esteemed as a critic than as a poet.

I may close my letter by a tribute to a distinguished Lombard writer, over whom the grave has lately closed. His life was somewhat Bohemian; but he had gifts as a critic and a descriptive writer which made him notable, although they did not save him from ending his days in wretchedness. There were plenty of people who liked his wit, who fêted him, applauded him, and made an idol of him; still he was left to die almost of starvation. This noted Bohemian was named Giuseppe Rovani. Two of his works will live as permanent additions to our literature, 'I cento Anni' and 'La Giovinezza di Giulio Cesare,' and there is a talk now of erecting a monument to him. It would have been wiser, I think, to have succoured him when he was alive. ANGELO DE GUBERNATIS.

Literary Gossip.

TO-DAY we publish 'Notes from Florence,' by Prof. De Gubernatis, and in a week or so, we hope to publish the first of a series of letters from Berlin, by the celebrated novelist, Herr Spielhagen. These, in conjunction with M. About's letters, will enable us to give a more vivid idea of the state of literature in three of the chief capitals of Europe than, we believe, has yet been obtainable by English readers.

THOSE who wish for an interesting *souvenir* of the late monster trial, will do well to secure a copy of a volume of some 100 pages, put in evidence by the prosecution, and entitled 'Letters and Documents written by the Claimant.' In these letters we have in brief, not only a history of the fraud, but also a singularly happy and complete picture of the imposter himself. Indeed, as a study in abnormal ethics, they are something *enii generis*. In them are to be found the references to "Wapping" as "a very respectable place"; to "that scamp Bowker" and "his tricks"; to "the blessed Maria"; and to the defendant's fondness for "small" pork; to the "pore fellows" who made their "affidavits" so very "strong"; to the "anomalous intress" which the defendant had to pay, and which was to "play the duce" with him when he came "into proussion"; to the "timper" of Mary, and the "slavenly ways" of Rosa, and most of the gems of Mr. Hawkins's speech. An article upon their "Beauties" will shortly appear in one of the monthly magazines. The "Tichborne number" of the *Graphic*, the letter-press of which, by the way, was written by Mr. Moy Thomas, is said to have attained a sale of over 200,000 copies.

THE Report of the University Commission is, it is believed, nearly, if not quite, ready. Two Cambridge Colleges refused to make returns, and a couple of Oxford Colleges, although not declining to give information, refused to fill up all the elaborate forms sent by the Commissioners.

'THE ENGLISH PEASANTRY' is the title of a new work by Mr. F. G. Heath, author of 'The Romance of Peasant Life.' The book

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deals with the general condition of the English peasantry, and will include a detailed account of Canon Girdlestone's work of migration.

MESSRS. GRIFFITH & FARRAN write to us:—

"The following is taken from the title-page of a copy of the book in our possession, 'Pictures of Roman History in Miniature, designed by Alfred Mills, with Explanatory Anecdotes. London: printed for Darton, Harvey & Darton, Gracechurch Street, and J. Harris, St. Paul's Churchyard, 1817.' We think this is a sufficient proof of the American magazine, *Old and New*, has made a mistake in asserting it to be 'the work written by the late J. S. Mill when a boy, and alluded to in his Autobiography.'"

Old and New gives the title-page, and says that Alfred Mills is J. S. Mill's *nom de plume*. Can Messrs. Griffith & Farran show that Alfred Mills was a real entity?

OUR friends the bibliophiles and bibliopoles of Paris were surprised the other day, when they assembled to view the books of M. Dancoisne, previously to their being disposed of by auction, by the appearance among them of a commissary of police and another officer of justice. These came to claim, on behalf of the Bibliothèque Nationale, and in the name of M. Taschereau, its chief, a certain MS., entitled "Gratiani collectio SS. Canonum et Decretorum, cum veteribus glossis," &c. The work in question, which is a highly valuable MS. of the fifteenth century, ornamented with thirty-eight grand miniature paintings, and the pages richly illuminated throughout with 600 heads introduced at the beginnings of the chapters, was claimed by M. Taschereau as having belonged originally to the library at Troyes, from which it was to have been transferred to the library at Paris in the year 1804, and a receipt was then actually given for it by M. Chardon de la Rochette. Before it reached the Bibliothèque Nationale, however, it was stolen, together with a quantity of books. M. Taschereau consequently claims the MS. as being the identical one thus lost or stolen, and it has been surrendered to him, of course under protest. But immediately there arises this difficulty, namely, that the MS. offered for sale came from the Perkins Library, which was disposed of last year by auction in this country. It was then purchased by M. Bachelin-Delorenne for the sum of 260*l.*, after a sharp contest with M. Fontaine, of Paris, and Mr. Quaritch, of London. There is no mark of any kind to identify it absolutely with the copy in the Troyes library, which, by the way, was said to be in a binding of black velvet, whereas the Perkins copy is bound in Russia leather, with the Perkins mark upon it. Moreover, the Troyes copy was alleged to have a frontispiece at the commencement, whereas in the Perkins there is only a blank leaf. When it is remembered that there are duplicates and triplicates of some of the valuable MSS. of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, very closely corresponding with each other, we think it will prove a difficult matter for M. Taschereau to establish the right of ownership claimed for the Bibliothèque Nationale.

The highest prices fetched at M. Dancoisne's sale are the following: 'Œuvres d'Alain Chartier,' Paris, 1529, 40*l.* 12*s.*; 'Fables Choiesies de La Fontaine,' 4 vols., 1755-59, 52*l.*; 'Contes et Nouvelles,' by the same, 2 vols., 1762, 50*l.*

Two new volumes are shortly to appear in

the "Golden Treasury Series," 'Deutsche Lieder,' a Golden Treasury of German Song, edited, with English notes, by Dr. Buchheim; and 'Scottish Songs,' edited by Miss Mary Carlyle Aitken, a niece of Mr. Carlyle's.

WE hear that a new edition will shortly be brought out of Ormerod's 'History of the County Palatine and City of Chester,' in three volumes, folio. The original steel plates illustrating the work are in the hands of a well-known publishing firm, by whom the new edition will be issued. Of the first and only impression, which has for a long time been very scarce, three hundred and fifty copies were printed on small paper, and sixty-five copies on large paper. The book was published in 1819.

THE Chetham Society has just held its thirty-first annual meeting, in the Audit Room of the Chetham Hospital, in Manchester. Mr. James Crossley, the President of the Society, occupied the chair, and read the Annual Report, at the conclusion of which he addressed the meeting at some length.

A FOURTH and considerably enlarged edition of Prof. Fawcett's 'Manual of Political Economy' will be ready shortly.

DR. M'COSH, author of an 'Examination of J. S. Mill's Philosophy,' and other philosophical works, will publish in America a 'History of Philosophy, from the Earliest Times to Sir William Hamilton,' and Messrs. Macmillan will publish the book simultaneously in this country.

A CHAIR of Education is to be founded in the Edinburgh University. This, under the provisions of the Scotch Education Act, will enable teachers to study at the University instead of at Training Colleges. A similar chair has been established at St. Andrews.

THE strike of printers in Manchester, to which we recently alluded as being imminent, has been averted, a concession having been made by the master printers to their *employés*. A proposition by the masters to submit the matter in dispute to arbitration was rejected by the workmen.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish shortly, uniform with Mr. Freeman's 'Old English History,' a 'History of Scandinavia,' by Miss Otté.

MR. LUDWIG DUMONT, of the *Cölnische Zeitung*, is paying a visit to England.

WE learn from Peking that a printing-office has lately been established in connexion with the Peking College, from which a voluminous history of the Taiping and Nienfei rebellions will shortly be issued, and where also a work on Chemistry, by Prof. Billequin, is in course of being printed. The establishment has been visited by Prince Kung, who expressed himself much pleased with the arrangements.

THE edition of Molière's works, Paris, 1682, published by his friends Lagrange and Vinot, for a long time little valued, has acquired a great importance since the discovery of a copy of it anterior to the insertion of the numerous cancels imposed by the censure before authorizing the issue of the edition. This copy, then belonging to M. de la Reynie, Lieutenant-General of Police, after having been carried to Constantinople, was subsequently bought by M. de Saligny, then by M. A. Bertin, and was sold at M. Bertin's sale for 1,210 fr. Another copy was, later, bought at the Chaudé sale for

2,500 fr., by the Duc d'Aumale. The first edition of Molière's works, under his own supervision, was published in the year of his death, 1673. No copy of it is known to exist, except in the collection of M. H. Bordes, "Amateur Bordelais," whose catalogue was published in 1872. Molière had prepared a second edition, but the revision interrupted by his death was finished by another, and the book was published in 1674-75. A fine copy of the later edition is in the new library of M. L. Double, and has just been described in a recent pamphlet of M. Paul Lacroix, "La Véritable Édition Originale des Œuvres de Molière" (Paris, Fontaine), par P. L. Jacob, bibliophile."

PROF. DOMENICO COMPARETTI, of Pisa, has in the press a work on Italian Folk-Lore, Stories, Songs, &c.

THE statement we made a fortnight ago in reference to a letter addressed by Mr. Gladstone to Prof. Max Müller was inaccurate; but we may mention that Mr. Gladstone, in a letter he has favoured us with, says "it was known to many of his friends, that he was desirous to turn his new position to account, as far as might be, for purposes other than those of politics."

UNDER the title of 'Shakespeare's Plutarch,' Mr. Skeat will edit, with introductory notes and glossarial index, those entire biographies and scattered passages from Sir Thomas North's translation of Plutarch, which Shakspeare drew upon in so many of his plays. The volume will be published by Messrs. Macmillan.

WE are sorry to hear of the death of Mr. William Shergold Browning, on the 4th instant, at an advanced age. Mr. William S. Browning was uncle of Mr. Robert Browning, the poet; and amidst other pressing avocations found time to give some attention to literature. His principal works were, two historical novels, one called 'Hoel Morven,' and the other the 'Provost of Paris,'—the latter was published in 1833; a collection of literary and historical essays, published in Paris under the title of 'The Leisure Hour'; and an original history of the Huguenots, first published in three volumes half a century ago, and republished, as a new edition, by Messrs. Whittaker & Co.

It has been decided that the corpse of M. Michelet shall not be brought to Paris, as was at one time proposed.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for the appearance of translations of Auerbach's forthcoming novel, 'Waldfried' into English, French, Italian, Hungarian, and Russian.

THE Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques has elected M. Geffroy to fill the vacancy caused by the death of M. Amédée Thierry; and M. Massé to that caused by the death of M. Odilon Barrot.

SCIENCE

ZOOLOGICAL NOTES.

THE importance of Palaeontology in the study of Vertebrate Zoology has been of late most fully exemplified; and, as might have been almost predicted, the discoveries are mostly derived from the Tertiary formations. Prof. Owen has described a unique avian form from the Sheppey clays, a *Steganopod* or gannet-like bird, named by him *Odontopteryx toliapica*, normal otherwise, but peculiar in having long bony serrations on the

cutting edges of both jaws, which in the living animal must have produced the appearance of the mouth of the Merganser in an exaggerated form.

Prof. Leidy's quarto volume, the first of the five which Mr. F. V. Hayden, the United States Geologist, promises on the survey of his country, describes most carefully and illustrates completely the results of his thorough study in the large and recent field for vertebrate palæontological work opened up in the Tertiary deposits of the Wyoming Territory, situated near Fort Bridger, in the neighbourhood of the Uintah Mountains and the Green River. This work puts us, for the first time, in possession of much of the material which has formed the basis for the large number of incompletely described orders, genera, and species which have recently reached us so repeatedly.

Among the most important new forms described by Prof. Leidy in detail as far as he has had the opportunity of seeing specimens, is *Uintatherium*, the marvellous gigantic six-horned ungulate, which is almost certainly not generically distinct from *Dinoceras* (Marsh), as well as *Eobasilus* (Cope) and *Loxolophodon* (Cope).

Palæosyops is a genus of Perissodactylates, to which Prof. Leidy has devoted much well repaid attention. It is evidently closely allied to the tapirs, and also to its contemporary form, *Palæotherium*. This recalls to mind the fact that a complete skeleton of *Palæotherium magnum*, *in situ*, has been obtained at Vitry-sur-Seine, which shows how even great men may be led into serious errors of generalization; for, instead of being a short-necked, tapir-like animal, as supposed and pictured by Cuvier, it had a long and stag-like gracefully-curved neck, the head being carried well above the shoulders. A careful perusal of Prof. Leidy's memoir will well repay the time spent on it.

Prof. Marsh, of Yale College, Massachusetts, in *Brontotherium ingens*, has discovered another ungulate as large as *Dinoceras* and the elephant, with a single pair of huge horn-cores near the apex of the nose, and a very flat head. The teeth, thirty-eight in number, formed a continuous series, with no gaps, and the zygomatic arches were very strong. A more complete description is much needed.

In recent Zoology, Dr. Peters, of Berlin, has described an interesting new genus of rodent animals, closely allied to the *Cavies*, from the table-lands of Peru, which he has named *Dinomys Branickii*. It is about the size of a *Paca*; black, with white spots in longitudinal rows, and a tail of medium length.

An interesting new species of Stork from Japan had been discovered by Mr. Swinhoe, who has so much enriched our knowledge of the Chinese fauna. It is of a maximum size, and is named *Ciconia Boyciiana*.

Mr. A. H. Garrod has suggested a new classification of birds, which presents several peculiarities. By means of formulae, in which a single letter is made to represent each anatomical fact, facilities are introduced for the ready comparison of different types. Much stress is laid on the many myological peculiarities that are to be found among birds, and these are associated with their visceral and pterylographic arrangements. It is shown that on this basis several changes are absolutely necessary in the arrangement at present adopted; the *Musopagide* and the *Oculidae* being much more intimately related to the *Galliniform* birds than to the *Passeres*, and the Secretary Vulture at a great distance from the *Accipitres* proper, from which the *Cathartide* have to be removed.

A specimen of *Rhinoceros sondaicus* from Java, has just been brought to this country for the first time, by Mr. G. Jamrach. The individual is a male, nearly adult, and the slight peculiarities which distinguish it from *R. unicornis* can at last be thoroughly studied by English zoologists, for it has been purchased, we are glad to say, by the Zoological Society, and may now be seen in the large mammal house, in Regent's Park, close beside the Indian, the hairy-eared and two-horned rhinoceri, with which it helps to form a series

more perfect than has as yet at any time been exhibited.

The chimpanzee died on Friday in last week, the cause of his death being *tubercular peritonitis*. He had been in the Gardens nearly three years and came from the banks of the Congo.

Mr. Edward Gerrard has succeeded in obtaining a large series of nearly all the rare Ganoid fish of North America, including several specimens of *Calamioichthys*.

THE RUSIZI AND THE NILE.

Liverpool, March, 1874.

MR. FINDLAY'S very interesting letter in the *Athenæum* of February 28, reminds me of several facts, besides those mentioned by himself, which corroborate his general view as to the connexion between Lake Tanganyika and the Nile.

1. Mr. Stanley, at p. 496, gives distinct proof of a northerly current in the water of the lake, on its eastern side, within some ten miles of its northern end. The outlet, therefore, is not likely to be south of this point.

2. The very rapid current, six or eight miles an hour, of one branch of the Rusizi, a shallow stream, flowing through a flat marsh, could only be derived from mountain torrents close at hand. But these would also account for the entire stream, the volume of which is inconceivable. It seems, therefore, more likely that the Rusizi described by Stanley, simply brings its water from the high mountains in the immediate neighbourhood than that it is the mouth of a river flowing from a considerable distance.

3. The most northerly portion of the eastern shore has not been visited. Several rivers are said to run here into the lake, but there is ample room for an outlet.

4. If Stanley's map is right, any such outlet at the extreme north-east of the lake, would naturally be deflected in a north-westerly direction by the adjacent mountain range, and would flow through the valley "about a mile in breadth," which is supposed to be the channel of the Rusizi. This course would take it towards the Albert Nyanza.

5. The marshy land at the head of Lake Tanganyika, is described as a dead level, fringed with so much tropical vegetation, that the river could not be seen till the canoe was nearly in it. It seems impossible, therefore, that the question of outlets or inlets could be satisfactorily determined by a water survey.

6. There must be an outlet somewhere, for, besides other reasons, the Malagarazi runs through saline plains, and is perceptibly salt to the taste. It could not have run for ages into a closed lake which is still fresh water. And considering the district which drains into the lake, it would seem that the supply of water must be much in excess of the evaporation.

Mr. Findlay's remarks are the more important, because there is no reason to think that Dr. Livingstone was ever able to settle the question by a land journey round the northern end of the lake.

ALBERT J. MOTT.

CHEMICAL NOTES.

'SUR le Prétendu Dégagement de l'Ozone des Plantes' is the title of a note, by M. J. Bellucci, presented to the Académie des Sciences, on the 2nd of February. After stating that Dr. Scouletten, in 1856, thought that he had found that the oxygen disengaged by plants under the influence of solar light possessed the property of ozone, and that these results were shown to be inconclusive by M. Cloëté in the same year, M. J. Bellucci describes his own experiments, which appear to prove that the changes produced upon the test papers placed in tubes to receive the gases given off by plants were due to moist oxygen and light, and not to ozone. The experiments made upon living plants having demonstrated in a very evident manner that ozone is not produced by the green leaves of plants, similar experiments were made upon recently cut plants with similar results.

Some experiments of an interesting character on

the behaviour of ozone with water have been conducted in Russia by E. Schöne, who has contributed to the *Annalen der Chemie und Pharmacie* a paper 'Ueber das Verhalten Von Ozon und Wasser zu Einander.' The main object of these experiments was to determine whether ozone is absorbed by water, and if so, under what circumstances. Schöne finds that ozone is partially destroyed by contact with water; indeed, by simply collecting ozonized oxygen over water, the proportion of ozone was diminished by about one-fourth, and the diminution becomes greater the longer the gas is in contact with the water, and the greater the extent of exposed surface. The disappearance of ozone seems not to be due, or to be due in only a very slight degree, to absorption, but is rather a consequence of the decomposition of the ozone. At the same time Schöne finds that ozone is capable of absorption by water, even at ordinary temperatures. If ozonized oxygen be allowed to stand in contact with water, the ozone is gradually transformed into ordinary oxygen; it was found that in about three days the original proportion of ozone was reduced to one-half, and after remaining for about fifteen days, the ozone entirely disappeared, with exception of mere traces. This transformation of ozone into ordinary oxygen at common temperatures is accompanied by expansion of volume.

Prof. Maskelyne's interesting mineral called *Asmanite*, obtained from the Breitenbach meteorite, has been analyzed anew by Prof. Vom Rath, of Bonn. His examination entirely confirms that of Mr. Maskelyne, and shows that the new species consists essentially of silica. We are therefore now acquainted with three distinct forms of crystallized silica occurring in nature, namely, *Quartz*, crystallizing in the hexagonal system, with specific gravity 2.6; *Tridymite*, also hexagonal, but entirely different from quartz, with specific gravity 2.3; and *Asmanite*, crystallizing in the rhombic system, with specific gravity 2.24.

The behaviour of the cinchona-alkaloids towards certain re-agents, has recently been studied by Herr Zorne, who publishes his results in the *Journal für Praktische Chemie*. By the action of hydrochloric acid on cinchonine, chinine, and cinchonidine, perhaps also on chinidine, several substitution-compounds are obtained, in which an atom of chlorine replaces a molecule of hydroxyl. These researches were suggested by Dr. Wright's well-known investigations on the alkaloids of opium.

A new method of determining pepsin, said to be recommended by its simplicity, rapidity, and accuracy, has been lately described, by Dr. Grütner, in Pflüger's *Archiv für Physiologie*. It is a colourimetric method, in which fibrin coloured with carmine is employed.

Some investigations on the chemical constitution of certain compounds of chloral, by Messrs. Meyer and Dulk, are described in the last number of the *Annalen der Chemie und Pharmacie*.

In the *Bulletin* of the Chemical Society of Paris for January 5th, MM. E. Croissant and L. Bretonnière have a description of a curious process for obtaining colouring matters from organic bodies. Any vegetable matter—such as sawdust, bran, humus, tannin, aloes, &c.—is acted on by sulphur and caustic soda in a furnace. Sulphuretted hydrogen is liberated in large quantities, and the vegetable substance, whatever it may be, is rendered soluble in water, to which it imparts a strong colour, varying with the substance employed. These solutions are employed as dyes, which are fixed by passing the fabric through boiling bichromate of potash.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

THE comet discovered by Prof. Winnecke, at Strasbourg, on the night of Feb. 20th (not 21st as stated in the *Athenæum* of Feb. 28th), appears to be a very small object. At the time of its discovery it resembled a faint nebula about 2' in diameter; but on the night of Feb. 22nd (an exceedingly clear one), it appeared to Dr. Winnecke to have a small nucleus, equal only in brightness to a star of the eleventh magnitude; he also suspected the

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existence of an extremely faint tail in the opposite direction to that of the Sun. Its orbit has been calculated by Herr Schulhof, of Vienna, by which it appears that, when in perihelion, which was on the 10th inst., it approached the Sun within the small distance of about four millions of miles. Its distance from the Earth has increased, during the present week, from about 80 to 100 millions of miles.

It has been before remarked in the *Athenæum* that, owing to the increasing number of the small planets, difficulty has been found in providing names for them. Only quite recently have names been announced for some of the discoveries of the last two years; and we therefore give the following table of the names, discoverers, and dates of discovery of those added to the system in 1872 and 1873:—

No.	Name.	Discoverer.	Date of Discovery.
119	Petitho	Luther	1872, Mar. 15
118	Althæa	Watson	1872, April 3
120	Lachesia	Borelli	1872, April 10
121	Hermione	Watson	1872, May 12
122	Gerda	Peters	1872, July 31
123	Brunhilda	Peters	1872, July 31
124	Alceia	Peters	1872, Aug. 23
125	Liberatrix	Prosper Henry	1872, Sept. 11
126	Velleda	Paul Henry	1872, Nov. 5
127	Johanna	Prosper Henry	1872, Nov. 5
128	Nemesis	Watson	1872, Nov. 25
129	Antigone	Peters	1873, Feb. 5
130	Electra	Peters	1873, Feb. 17
131	Vala	Peters	1873, May 24
132	Elsira	Watson	1873, June 13
133	Cyrene	Watson	1873, Aug. 16
134	Sophrosyne	Luther	1873, Sept. 27

No. 135, discovered in the present year, has not yet been named.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—March 5.—The President in the chair.—The following paper was read, 'The Localization of Function in the Brain,' by Prof. Ferrier, M.D.

GEOGRAPHICAL.—March 9.—The Right Hon. Sir Bartle Frere, President, in the chair.—The following new Fellows were elected: Dr. Altschul, Dr. G. K. Barton, Rev. Cave-Browne, Viscount Harberton, Lieut. J. Hill, Lieut.-Col. M'Mahon, Col. A. Stewart, Capt. J. Thwaites, Messrs. A. G. Dodson, R. Harris, F. W. Lawrence, E. G. Loder, B. Meinertzhagen, A. W. Moore, R. N. Phillips, A. E. Scott, G. M. Stewart, W. Spencer, E. Tinné, J. H. Webster, and J. Wilkinson.—A paper was read, by Mr. Consul Hutchinson, entitled, 'Across the Andes from Callao,' and giving a topographical description of the line of railway now being constructed across the main ridge of the Andes, between Lima and Oroya. This remarkable engineering work comprises 128½ miles of road (from Lima), and is intended as a first step towards bringing the rich and fertile interior of the country (east of the Andes) into easy communication with the capital and the ports of the Pacific. The crest of the Andes is traversed by means of a short tunnel, at an altitude of 15,645 feet above the sea level; the steep and irregular slope up to this point being ascended by a series of sharp curves and reversed tangents, and the deep ravines spanned by bridges—one of which is 265 feet high.—A second paper, 'On the Railway in Southern Peru, between the Port of Mollendo, Arequipa, and Puno, and on the Steam Navigation of Lake Titicaca,' was read, by Mr. C. R. Markham.—From 4,000 to 5,000 labourers, chiefly Chilians and Bolivians, have been employed during three and a half years in constructing the part of this line between Arequipa and Puno, a distance of 217 miles; and on the 1st of January, 1874, the first locomotive reached the shores of Lake Titicaca, situated in a table-land 12,196 feet above the level of the sea. The establishment of the steam navigation on the lake was due to the energy and enterprise of Capt. Melgar; and the credit of much of the rapid progress now being made in opening up the interior of Peru was awarded to Don Manuel Pardo, the actual President.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—March 5.—C. S. Perceval, Esq., LL.D., V.P., in the chair.—This being

an evening appointed for the ballot, no papers were read.—The following gentlemen were elected: Revs. E. Marshall, A. C. Lawrence, and S. W. Waite; Messrs. J. Guest, J. Peckover, J. W. Carillon, W. Cotton, C. T. Martin, and E. Knocker.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—March 6.—Sir S. D. Scott, Bart., V.P., in the chair.—Sir E. Smirke read remarks 'On the Probable Use of a "Falcon," in the case of the descent of the Manor of Auckland to the Bishops of Durham.' They had reference to the curved swords, inscribed "Edwardus Prins Angliæ," lately brought to the notice of the Institute by Mr. Earwaker.—Sir Edward continued with "Suggestions" for an etymology of the name of Powderham Castle, near Exeter, which he deduced from the Flemish word "polder," as descriptive of the locality.—A discussion ensued, in which the Chairman and Sir J. Maclean took part.—Mr. Scharf read 'Observations on some of the Portraits of Deceased Worthies, exhibited at the Annual Meeting of the Institute, held at Exeter in 1873.'—Mr. Church brought a fine processional Cross, overlaid with brass-gilt and silver plaques, Italian work, with the date 1427. The ornamentation, which is very good, was the subject of some observations by Mr. Soden Smith.—Mr. Henderson brought an Azulejo, or encaustic tile, from the Hall of Justice, Alhambra, A.D. 1300, inscribed, "There is no conqueror but God"; also, encaustic tile, with arms of the Medici family.—Sir E. Lechmere, Bart., sent an original Taxation, or "Lay Subsidy," Roll for the County of Worcester, in the reign of Edward the First, upon which Mr. Burtt made some observations. The roll consists of twenty-five narrow membranes, and is much earlier than any such roll for the county among the series in the Public Record Office. It is closely and beautifully written, and nearly perfect. Sir Edward also sent an original roll of arrears in the "Pipe Office" of the Exchequer to be levied by the Sheriff of Salop, 13 Henry VIII.—Mr. W. J. B. Smith exhibited a Spanish falchion of the sixteenth century, with S guard, pomel, and terminations of guard in form of birds' heads, blade inscribed IVAN. MARTINES. EN TOLEDO. IN. TE. DOMINE. ESPERAVI; also two other specimens of falchions of special make, German and English; also a small poniard, with bayonet-shaped blade, of silver, the pomel and guard also of silver—the former in the form of a human skull, the latter in that of two thigh-bones crossed, probably Italian, late sixteenth century.—Mr. Geoghegan sent a Persian yataghan, with blade finely damascened, late seventeenth century.—Capt. Oliver sent photograph of Grant of Arms to Gayus Dyxon, of Tonbridge, Kent, A.D. 1565.—Announcements were made of an Exhibition of Illuminated MSS. now being held at the Burlington Fine Arts' Club, to which Members of the Institute were invited; and of the Prehistoric Congress, to be held at Stockholm from the 7th to the 16th of August next.

LINNEAN.—March 5.—Special General Meeting.—G. Busk, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—After some introductory remarks by the chairman, Mr. Carruthers moved, and Mr. Dallas seconded, a motion, "That a Committee be appointed to consider the Bye-laws and to suggest to the Council such alterations, omissions, or additions as they may think desirable." Thereupon Major-Gen. Strachey moved, and Mr. Breeze seconded, an amendment, "That, inasmuch as it appears that there are differences of opinion in the Society as to the legality of the alterations of the bye-laws made at the meeting of the 15th of January last; this meeting, retaining complete confidence in the President and Council of the Society, requests them to obtain the opinion of some legal authority whether those alterations are legally binding on the Society or not; that if the opinion be that the said alterations are legally binding, no further steps be taken in reference to them; and that if the opinion be that the said alterations, or any of them, are not legally binding, the Council be requested to take the necessary proceedings for

setting aside the vote of the 15th of January."—After much discussion, the amendment was put to the meeting and carried, and was then adopted as a substantive resolution.—Sir J. Lubbock, Bart., then moved, and Mr. Carruthers seconded, a resolution expressive of the high sense entertained by the Society of the eminent services rendered to it and to science by the President during his long tenure of the chair, which was carried unanimously.

ZOOLOGICAL.—March 3.—Dr. E. Hamilton, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a Report on the additions made to the Society's Menagerie during February, and called special attention to a Malayan Hornbill (*Buceros Malayanus*) new to the Society's collection, a Python, presented by Mr. C. J. Noble, of Hong-Kong, and a young male of an undescribed species of Deer from Northern China.—Letters and communications were read from Sir H. Barkly, announcing that he had obtained a pair of young Eared Seals (*Otaria pusilla*) for the Society's collection, from Mr. W. H. Hudson, of Buenos Ayres, on the parasitical habits of the three species of *Molothrus*, found in Buenos Ayres, namely, *M. Bonariensis*, *M. badius*, and *M. rufo-axillaris*,—by Mr. Sclater on a small collection of Birds, obtained by Sir G. Briggs in the island of Barbadoes, West Indies, and on an apparently new form of the family Icteridae, which he proposed to call *Centropus mirus*,—from Dr. J. E. Gray, on *Crocodylus Johnsoni*, Krefft, from Northern Australia, of which he proposed to form a new genus, *Phylas*,—by Mr. W. S. Kent, on a huge Cephalopod or Cuttle-Fish, announced by the Rev. M. Harvey as lately encountered in Concepcion Bay, Newfoundland, and of which a tentacle sixteen feet long has been secured for the St. John's Museum. Mr. S. Kent contributed the additional evidence of an arm nine feet long preserved in the British Museum, in proof of the gigantic dimensions occasionally attained by certain members of this order of the mollusca, and proposed to institute the new generic title of *Megaloteuthis* for their especial reception; he further suggested distinguishing the Newfoundland example as *Megaloteuthis Harveyi*.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—March 2.—Sir S. S. Saunders, President, in the chair.—Mr. M'Lachlan exhibited two male examples of an Orthopterous insect belonging to the family Locustidae. They were said to be sold in the streets of Shanghai, confined in ornamental wicker cages, and bought for the sound they produced. The species appeared to be undescribed, and to pertain to a new genus, allied to *Xiphidium*.—Mr. M'Lachlan also exhibited a series of examples, illustrating the natural history of *Oniscigaster Wakefieldi*, from New Zealand, described and figured by him from the female imago in the *Entomologist's Magazine* for October last. The series now exhibited comprised the male imago, female sub-imago, adult nymph, and larva. The lateral wing-like, horny expansions of the terminal segments of the abdomen in the imago and sub-imago are continued in the aquatic conditions on each segment of the abdomen, and in addition there are similar formations along the back of the abdomen, placed longitudinally and vertically. The adult nymph appears to possess no external gills or laminae but they are conspicuous in the less mature larva on each side of the ventral surface of the abdomen.—The Rev. A. E. Eaton exhibited some Arctic insects which he had brought from Spitzbergen, and also some excellent photographs illustrating the scenery of the country.—A further communication was received from Mr. Gooch respecting the injury to the coffee-trees in Natal from the Longicorn beetle *Anthrenus leuconotus*, Pascoe.—Papers were communicated 'On some New Species of South African Lycenidae,' by Mr. R. Trimen, and 'Descriptions of New Species of Lycenidae,' from his own collection, by Mr. W. C. Hewitson.

CHEMICAL.—March 5.—Prof. G. C. Foster in the chair.—A paper, 'On the Spontaneous Combustion of Charcoal,' was read by the author, Mr. A. F. Hargreaves, in which he pointed out the

best wood for charcoal for the manufacture of gunpowder, and also the best method of charring it. It appears that if it is ground too soon after being burnt, the charcoal is liable to take fire spontaneously. The other communications were, 'Researches on the Action of the Copper-Zinc Couple on Organic Bodies: Part V., on the Bromides of the Olefines; Part VI., on Ethyl Bromide,' by Dr. J. H. Gladstone and Mr. A. Tribe, 'Researches on the Preparation of Organo-metallic Bodies of the $C_n H_{2n}$ Series of Hydrocarbons,' by Dr. D. Tommasi, 'Note on the Action of Trichloroacetyl Chloride on Urea,' by Messrs. R. Meldola and D. Tommasi, and 'The Agglomeration of finely-divided Metals by Hydrogen,' by Mr. A. Tribe.

MICROSCOPICAL.—March 4.—C. Brooke, Esq., President, in the chair.—A paper was read by Mr. A. Sanders, entitled, 'A Contribution towards a Knowledge of the Appendicularia,' in which he minutely described specimens found at Torquay and at Weymouth, and illustrated the subject by diagrams. A short discussion ensued, as to the best methods of observing and preserving these delicate organisms.—Two papers, by Dr. G. W. R. Pigott, were read by the Secretary, 'On the Verification of Structure by Means of Compressed Fluid,' and 'A Note on the President's Remarks on Dr. Pigott's Aplanatic Searcher.' Dr. Pigott subsequently gave an extended explanation of the contents of his papers, and also detailed a new method of determining the refractive index of covering glass. Dr. Pigott's remarks gave rise to a lengthened discussion, in which the President, Messrs. Wenham, Slack, Stephenson, and Dr. Pigott took part.

PHILOLOGICAL.—March 6.—J. A. H. Murray, Esq., in the chair.—M. Paul Meyer, of the École des Chartes, Paris, was elected an Honorary Member.—The paper read was, 'On Vowel-Changes in the English Dialects,' by Mr. A. J. Ellis, President.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—March 10. T. E. Harrison, Esq., President, in the chair.—The paper read was, 'On Gun-Carriages and Mechanical Appliances for working Heavy Ordnance,' by Mr. G. W. Rendel.

SOCIETY OF BIBLICAL ARCHÆOLOGY.—March 3.—Dr. Birch, President, in the chair.—The Rev. C. Bowden, M.A., the Rev. A. Paine, and Miss E. Rogers, were elected Members.—The following papers were read: 'Translation of an Egyptian Fabulous Romance,' 'The Tale of the Doomed Prince,' from the Harris Papyrus, 'Translation of an Historical Narrative belonging to the Reign of Thothmes III.,' both by Mr. C. W. Goodwin, M.A., and 'Observations upon the Assyrian Verbs Basu and Qabab,' by Prof. W. Wright.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon.** Asiatic, 2.
- London Institution, 4.—'Historical Development of Art,' IV., Dr. G. G. Zerrin.
- Royal Academy, 8.—'Sculpture,' Mr. H. Weekes.
- Victoria Institute, 8.—'Harmony between the Chronology of Egypt and the Bible,' Rev. R. W. Savile.
- Social Science Association, 8.—'Policy of Granting Letters Patent for Inventions,' Mr. J. Coryton.
- Surveyors, 8.—'Discussion on Mr. Clutton's paper, 'Self-sown Oak Woods of Sussex,' and Mr. Watney's on 'Timber.'
- United Service Institution, 8.—'Iron-clad Navies,' Mr. E. J. Reed.
- Tues.** Royal Institution, 3.—'Physical Properties of Liquids and Gases,' Prof. Tyndall.
- Statistical, 7.—'Census of Bengal,' Mr. H. Beverley.
- London Anthropological, 8.—'Spiritism among Uncultured Peoples compared with Modern Spiritualism,' Mr. C. S. Wake.
- 'Opinions of the Brahmins respecting Spiritism and Supernatural Phenomena,' Mr. G. Zagore.
- 'Interpretation of Mythology,' Mr. J. Kaines.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—'Discussion on Mr. Rendel's paper, 'Carriages and Mechanical Appliances for Working Heavy Ordnance.'
- Society of Arts, 8.—'Geographical and Physical Character of the Diamond-Fields of South Africa,' Hon. T. Shepstone.
- Zoological, 8.—'Structure of the Skull and Head of Menobranchia,' Prof. T. H. Huxley.
- Wed.** London Institution, 7.—'Travels Course,' III.
- Meteorological, 7.—'Relation between the Velocity of the Wind and its Force (Beaufort Scale),' Mr. B. H. Scott; 'Sensitiveness of Thermometers,' Mr. G. J. Symonds; 'Weather of Thirteen Autumns,' Mr. R. Strachan.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'The Channel Tunnel,' Mr. W. Hawes.
- Thurs.** Royal Institution, 3.—'Cryptogamic Vegetation, Ferns and Mosses,' Prof. W. C. Williamson.
- Linnean, 8.—'Bees and Wasps,' Sir J. Lubbock, Bart.
- Chemical, 8.—'On Dissociation,' Prof. J. Dewar.
- Cambridge Philological, 8.
- Antiquaries, 8.—'Miscellaneous Antiquities.'
- Fri.** Society of Arts, 8.—'Anthracene and Alizarine,' Dr. Vermaann.
- Philological, 8.—'History of English Sounds,' Mr. H. Sweet.
- Royal Institution, 8.—'Temperature of the Atlantic,' Dr. W. B. Carpenter.
- Sat.** Royal Institution, 8.—'Mr. Wood's Discoveries at Ephesus,' Mr. C. T. Newton.

Science Gossip.

AN effort will shortly be made to induce the new Cabinet to fit out the Arctic Expedition, which their predecessors declined to undertake.

MR. J. ARTHUR PHILLIPS is continuing with great care his examination of the waters of the deep mines of Cornwall. In the *Philosophical Magazine* for March he gives the results of his analyses of the waters taken from the Phoenix mine at the depth of 212 fathoms, and from Dolcoath mine at the depth of 302 fathoms. He also gives the analyses made of "a soft reddish-grey precipitate," which is found in most mines in the vicinity of veins from which the water flows, which is found to contain above 32 per cent. of arsenic, and above 36 per cent. of ferric oxide.

MR. WILLIAM JORY HENWOOD, F.R.S., communicated to the Royal Institution of Cornwall, a short time since, 'Observations on the Detrital Tin-Ore of Cornwall,' which paper has been reprinted from the *Journal* for private circulation. This is the most satisfactory account of the tin-streams of Cornwall which has yet appeared, giving a complete list of all the districts producing stream-tin, with careful observations of the successive deposits beneath which the tin is found. These observations are worthy the closest study by all those who are interested in the phenomena exhibited by these remarkable deposits of tin, and, incidentally, of gold, which metal has always been found in the tin-streams.

In the course of his lectures during the present Term at the Clarendon Laboratory, Oxford, Prof. Clifton has exhibited an interesting series of photographs of Interference and Diffraction phenomena. The photographs were obtained by receiving the shadows, &c. on prepared plates instead of on an ordinary screen, and they were then projected on the screen of the lecture-room by means of a lime light, the impression produced on the sensitive plate being in some cases magnified to 2,500 diameters. The diagrams included interference phenomena produced by Fresnel's prism, diffraction bands bordering the shadows of a straight edge and an angular aperture, the internal interference bands in the shadow of a wire and a needle, the shadow of a small circular disc, and the phenomena presented by light which has passed through a small circular hole. The Professor stated his belief that similar photographs had never previously been made available for lecture-room purposes.

THE Legislative Assembly of New South Wales have ordered the printing of a Report, by Mr. C. S. Wilkinson, on the Tin-Bearing Country, New England. At this time, when the importation of tin from Australia is most seriously affecting the tin-mines of Cornwall and Devonshire, this excellent Report has an especial interest. At the Borat Creek, which flows into the Gwydir, we are told, in addition to several tons of stream-tin, upwards of 200 diamonds were obtained in two months.

EXACTLY half a century ago Prof. J. C. Poggen-dorff, of Berlin, commenced the publication of that journal which has since become famous to European physicists, under the title of the *Annalen der Physik und Chemie*. During the past fifty years no fewer than one hundred and fifty consecutive volumes, and six "Ergänzungsbände" have appeared, all conducted by the same editor, printed in the same office, and issued from the same publishing house—that of J. A. Barth, of Leipzig. It is pleasing to remark that a special Jubilee Volume, dedicated to Johann Christian Poggen-dorff, is about to be issued by the editor's friends, in recognition of his long-continued services to scientific literature.

FINE ARTS

'THE SHADOW OF DEATH.' Painted by Mr. HOLMAN HUNT. 'NOW ON VIEW.' From 10 till 5.—A majestic Platform has been erected, so that Visitors now have an unimpeded View of the Picture.—30a, Old Bond Street

DUDLEY GALLERY, Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.—GENERAL EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS.—THE TENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS OPEN DAILY, from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. GEORGE L. HALL, Hon. Sec.

DORR'S GREAT PICTURE of 'CHRIST LEAVING THE SEPULCHRE,' with 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Francesca de Rimini,' 'Neophyte,' 'Andromeda,' &c., at the DORR GALLERY, 35, New Bond Street. Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s.

WILL OPEN ON MONDAY, March 18, ROUND THE WORLD with W. SIMPSON, being Pictures from the Four Quarters of the Globe by a "Special Artist."—Burlington Gallery, 161, Piccadilly. Open from Ten to Six.—Admission, including Catalogue, 1s.

HOGARTH HOUSE, CHISWICK.

I THINK it is only fair towards the present tenant of the house in which William Hogarth so long resided, to put you in possession of the facts relating to the case. Mr. Hicks, the actor, had long resided there, and on his death, the proprietor of the house took special care in his arrangements with Mr. Clack, the present tenant, that nothing should be done to destroy the integrity of the famous house. It is situated in a very old-fashioned part of this very old-world parish, and is itself much out of repair. Save and except that it is situated close to Hogarth's burial-place in the parish churchyard, it has nothing to recommend it. There is only one room of any magnitude, that used by the celebrated painter as his studio. The grounds were alone to be used and beautified, and the house was to remain as before. It has not been turned into a "sweet-stuff" shop, but a little display was made when Mr. Clack placed his own aged parents in the house in order to prevent anything happening to the place. As to the garden no harm can possibly accrue; it will only be ornamented and made useful. I have it in charge from Mr. Clack to say that he will be at all times anxious to show the house to those who may honour him with a visit, and he is most desirous that nothing shall occur likely to disturb the integrity of what remains of this memorable dwelling-place. KENNETH R. H. MACKENZIE.

Mr. Mackenzie's assurances are welcome to all who honour Hogarth; but in justice to our original informant we are bound to state that he avers the "little display" in question to have comprised lollipops, brandy-balls, oranges, and other articles which are popularly associated as "sweet-stuff." Hogarth House ought not to be allowed to fall to ruin.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold, on the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th inst., the fourth portion of engravings from the works of Turner, comprising nearly 900 lots, of which the following were the more important, with the prices realized for them: Ancient Carthage, engraved by D. Wilson, artist's proof, 12*l.*; another, 12*l.*; proof before letters, India, 10*l.*; another, 11*l.*—Ancient Italy, by Willmore, artist's trial proof, 13*l.*; another, 13*l.*—Modern Italy, by W. Miller, artist's proof, with etched title, 10*l.*; artist's proof, 10 guineas.—Heidelberg, by T. A. Prior, unfinished proof and etching, 11*l.*; proof nearly finished, 12*l.*; another, 10*l.*—Mercury and Argus, by Willmore, touched proof, with MS. notes, 11*l.*; trial proof, 12*l.*; proof before letters, India, 10*l.*; proof before letters, India, 13*l.* The prints of which the remainders were sold on these days were, Ancient Carthage, Ancient Italy, Modern Italy, Heidelberg, Oxford, Venice, by W. Miller, Mercury and Argus, The Field of Waterloo, The Deluge, Fishing-Boats off Calais, and Boccaccio.

On the 2nd inst., the following pictures were sold, at the Hôtel Drouot, Paris, comprised in the collection of M. Landais: Diaz de la Pena, La Source, Forêt de Fontainebleau, 3,750 francs.—La Clairière, Forêt de Fontainebleau, 4,000 *fr.*

At Brussels, the following pictures, a portion of a large collection recently exhibited, were sold on days succeeding the 21st ultimo: M. Schreyer, Attealage Hongrois, 15,500 francs.—M. Roybet, Le Fumeur, 10,000 *fr.*—Troyon, Taureau, 13,000 *fr.*—Vibert, Gulliver dans l'île de Lilliput, 20,000 *fr.*—M. A. Stevens, Le Cadeau de Nouvel An, 21,000 *fr.*—Leys, La Déclaration, 26,500 *fr.*

Th. Rousseau, Vue des Environs de Paris, 10,000 f.; La Paix et La Guerre, 21,000 f.—M. Marieliat, Plage de Villerville, soleil couchant, 15,500 f.—Bianchi, La Parade, 5,500 f.—Robie, Fleurs et Fruits, 8,400 f.—M. J. Dupré, Les Cabanes, 6,800 f.—M. Ziem, Le Parc de Venise, 8,500 f.—E. Verboeckhoeven, Le Retour du Troupeau, 11,200 f.—M. H. Ten Kate, Le Saltimbanque, 6,600 f.—Th. Rousseau, Jour d'Automne, 14,600 f.—Decamps, Les Mendiants, 5,000 f.—Rossi, L'Absence des Maîtres, 4,500 f.—M. F. Willems, La Brodeuse, 8,600 f.

Fine-Art Gossip.

A new edition of Taylor and Cresy's 'Architectural Antiquities of Rome,' large folio, with one hundred and thirty-five plates, will shortly be published by Messrs. Lockwood & Co. One of the authors, G. I. Taylor, Esq., had projected, and at the time of his death, in May last, had nearly carried it through the press. In consequence of his decease, the work has since been completed for publication by his son, the Rev. Alexander Taylor, M.A., Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, and chaplain of Gray's Inn.

M. HÉBERT has lately finished an important picture, representing the Madonna, seated, with the Infant Christ upon her right knee. She wears a white tunic with coloured borders, embroidered, and her head is enveloped in folds of the same material; a black mantle is cast over her left shoulder, to form a full drapery. Report speaks highly of the tender and pathetic spirit which animates this work, of its elaborate and beautiful execution, and of the fine manner in which Oriental characteristics are rendered by the painter.

MR. ST. JOHN TYRHWITT will shortly publish a book whose title will explain itself—'Our Sketching Club, or Letters and Studies on Landscape Art,' with an authorized reproduction of the lessons and woodcuts in Prof. Ruskin's 'Elements of Drawing.'

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "There would seem to be some unnecessary delay in handing over to the Metropolitan Board of Works the land on the Thames Embankment about which there has been so much discussion, and which it is finally decided shall be laid out as a public garden. It is not impossible that, unless common-sense steps in, the land in question may remain for a year or more in its present neglected and filthy state. The whole arrangement involves some exchange of lands already decided on between the Crown and Metropolitan Board; but it is necessary, as the extent of ground to be devoted to a public garden is already marked out, to await the removal of Northumberland House for the completion of a mere formality."

We have received, not as a reward, for nobody bestows medals on us, from the Commissioners of the London International Exhibition, an impression of the medallion which an indignant gentleman threw into the fire. The authorities who bestowed the medal say that it was not intended to be thrown into the fire, and that, of old, people looked to the art rather than to the materials of such works. We are not quite so sure of the latter point as Mr. Cole asserts himself to be, and we suppose the sight of the ill-executed bust of the Prince of Wales on the obverse was too much for the loyalty of the recipient. This wretched work is signed "G. Morgan, sc." It was long ago said that every medal has two sides, and so it appears, for the reverse of that in question comprises a well-composed view of buildings at South Kensington, tolerably executed, but reproduced in a bad material.

THE Exhibition of the Society of Lady Artists will be opened to the public on Monday next; the private view takes place to-day. The gallery is in Great Marlborough Street, Regent Street.

MR. E. LACRETELLE, of Sloane Street, has forwarded us an impression of an etched plate, being the portrait of a lady. The artist sends it

as a specimen of a mode of portraiture to be brought into common use. He is willing, as others would not doubt be, to sell the plates to the sitters, who could thus obtain any number of copies at a slight expense. Being works of art and completely permanent, they would be preferable to photographs. Mr. Lacreteille's notion is a good though not a new one, and we commend it to the notice of artists and sitters. His specimen etching is very pretty, although it is rather slight and rather sentimental, and the drawing is not irreproachable.

THE Exhibition of Drawings by the Société Belge des Aquarellistes will be opened on the 4th of May next, at Brussels.

FRESCOES attributed to Perugino have been discovered in the Cathedral at Corneto.

WE are requested to state that the second Conversation of the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts, arranged to take place on the 19th inst., is, in consequence of the reception to be given to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh on that evening at the Albert Hall, postponed until April 16, when it will be held at the South Kensington Museum.

WITHIN the late few days, a large vase of porphyry, brought from one of the late Imperial palaces, has been placed on one of the Mosaic tables in the Galerie d'Apollon, in the Louvre. It is oviform, with two handles of copper, modelled *à la grecque* playing flutes. The pedestal, of grey granite, on which this work is placed is of the form of an antique altar, ornamented at the four angles with heads of rams, connected by garlands. It is one of the finest examples of art in the time of Louis the Sixteenth. The well-known statuette of Henri Quatre and Marie de Medici have been placed in the gallery of modern bronzes, in the Louvre.

MUSIO

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY. Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Sir Michael Costa. FRIDAY NEXT, March 20, Mr. Warren's Oratorio, 'ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.' Madame Sherrington, Miss A. Sterling, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. Organist, Mr. Willing.—Tickets, 2s., 1s., and 10s. 6d., 6, Exeter Hall.

BRITISH ORCHESTRAL SOCIETY.—Patron, H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh. Conductor, Mr. George Mount.—FIFTH CONCERT, THURSDAY, March 25, St. James's Hall, Eight o'clock. Vocalist, Mr. Sims Reeves.—Single Tickets: Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Reserved, 5s., 3s., 2s., 1s.; Stanley Lucas, Weber & Co., 54, New Bond Street; usual Agents; and at Austin's Ticket-Office, 28, Piccadilly.

CONCERTS.

MISS AGNES ZIMMERMANN selected for her solo display, at the Monday Popular Concerts on the 9th, two works by Mendelssohn, introduced for the first time. The first was one of the 'Sieben Charakteristische Stücke,' a composition of his youth; each piece has a distinctive motto—that in D major, executed by the lady, is called "Kräftig und Feuerig" (Forceful and Ardent). The other production was a Prelude and Fugue in B flat, Op. 35, a later composition, the last one of six fugues. We are grateful to the fair pianist for adding her two importations to the rich *répertoire* of the Popular Concerts; but her style, neat and finished in execution as it is, lacks the fiery and impulsive Mendelssohnian manipulation, of which we had so recently an illustration in the marvellous brilliancy and poetic feeling which characterized Dr. Von Bülow. The String Quintet in C major, Op. 29, of Beethoven, and the String Quartet in E flat, Op. 64, No. 2, of Haydn, with J. S. Bach's Chaconne for violin in D minor, were the other items in the programme; and to state that the executants were MM. Joachim, I. Ries, Straus, Zerbini, and Piatti, will suffice to show how enjoyable was the *menu*. Miss Sterling is to be praised for her selection of songs by Bach, Schubert, Schumann, and Mendelssohn, accompanied by Sir J. Benedict; and this good taste will doubtless lead to the improvement of her style, which is wanting in sensibility and refinement. Excellence of voice is not all that is required in the art of vocalization. Mr. Dannreuther will play next Monday, and amateurs may be reminded that, on the 30th inst., the sixteenth season will close.

Herr Brahms's variations on a theme by Haydn (a Chorale), for full orchestra, ably executed, for the first time, under Herr Manns's direction, was technically curious for the contrapuntal skill therein displayed; but it is not over-exciting in its influence on a mixed auditory. The incidental music of Beethoven to Goethe's 'Egmont,' fine as it is, has never interested audiences here deeply when allied with an indifferent translation, spouted by a ponderous reader. Rossini's animated 'William Tell' overture quite roused the Sydenham subscribers. Madame Otto-Alvleben and Mr. Santley were the vocalists.

M. Gounod's choir concerts hang heavily in the absence of an orchestra, and, admirable as are the powers of the composer as a pianist, his 'Funeral March of a Marionette' loses something of its point and piquancy without the instrumental colouring. Master Claude Jaquinot's clever performance on the violin of M. Gounod's 'Berceuse' was followed by a hearty re-demand; the youth also played the 'Hymn to St. Cecilia.' The choir sang the 'Pater Noster,' the 'Sicilian Mariner's Hymn,' 'Omnipotent Lord,' 'Giatenella,' and 'Go, Lovely Rose.' Solos were sung by Mrs. Weldon, Mdlle. Morren, and Madame Schneegans. The last-mentioned lady had to repeat the charming air, 'Ho messo nuove corde,' from M. Gounod's musical novel, 'Biondina.'

ORCHESTRAL SOCIETIES.

THE Prospectuses of the two old-established instrumental associations prove that the desire for novelty is now widely spread, and that it is not limited to a few amateurs, who have for years pointed out, that to confine the orchestral *répertoire* within the narrowest possible limits year after year, was to place barriers against art advancement. The Directors of the ancient Philharmonic Society have supplied a list of twenty-four works which will be included in the schemes of their eight concerts, in addition to the standard *répertoire*. Of the old masters, we are to have productions by Handel, Gluck, Schubert, Spohr, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Berlioz, and Cipriani Potter; of the composers of the period, there will be compositions by Wagner, Raff, Rheinberger (thanks to Dr. Von Bülow), Lachner, F. Hiller, and Brahms. Nor are our British professors ignored, as there will be specimens by Sir W. Sterndale Bennett (the 'Ajax' setting), Mr. Sullivan, and Mr. G. A. Macfarren. Many of the pieces enumerated have been heard elsewhere, but that they should penetrate the Philharmonic domain is something gained. It is cheerful to see an abandonment of the Rip Van Winkle policy, and to see that the management has been roused to action, and is inclined to add to the archives of a library which was getting musty with age. Mr. Cusins will be, as before, the conductor.

Something like innovation is seen also in the programme of the more modern Philharmonic Society, which, however, is not yet free from the original mistake of adopting the title of another association, only adding the equivocal adjective "New," whereas it followed very closely in the wake of the old institution. Herr Ganz is to be associated with Dr. Wyde as conductor, and this is a decided step in advance. We remark that the Prospectus mentions the new symphony by Herr Joachim Raff, 'Im Walde,' which, at the Spa Musical Festival, in Paris, and in Brussels, created no ordinary sensation; besides works by Wagner, Lachner, Brahms, Reinecke, Julius Rietz, Rudorff, Gottfried Linder, and Gustave Erlanger. Some of these names are new to this country. The division of the eight concerts into four morning and four evening ones will, doubtless, be convenient to many connoisseurs living at a distance. The omission of the names of the singers who for twenty-two years have appeared in succession at the New Philharmonic Society is a proper reform of the Prospectus.

Musical Gossip.

ROSSINI'S 'Semiramide' will be the opening work at Her Majesty's Opera (Drury Lane) next

Tuesday, with Mdle. Tietjens, Madame Trebelli-Bettini, and Signor Agnesi. The report that the pitch has been altered is premature. Mr. Mapleson having agreed to defray the outlay for the new instruments required to introduce the French "Diapason Normal," Sir Michael Costa assented to the lowering of the pitch required by Madame Nilsson and Mdle. Tietjens; but it will be some weeks before the new flutes, clarionets, bassoons, horns, &c., will be received here from Paris. The players of the stringed instruments will have to use thicker strings, and the organ must also be adapted to the new diapason, the general adoption of which is prevented by the great expense which it entails on the performers, who cannot be reasonably expected, with their moderate earnings, to defray the cost. The two Operahouses, Drury Lane and Covent Garden, where the lessees make the outlay, will alone have this season the French pitch.

MR. W. CARTER, in addition to the announcement of the performance of his 'Placida' Cantata and Rossini's 'Stabat Mater,' in the Royal Albert Hall, on the 12th inst., held out the additional attraction of the illumination of the orchestra with the electric light during the National Anthem.

OUR notices of the concerts of the British Orchestral Society on the 12th, and of the Wagner Society on the 13th, will appear in next week's *Athenæum*. This evening (the 14th) will be the concert of the Royal Albert Hall Amateur Orchestral Society. Next Wednesday will be the last of the London Ballad Concerts this season. On the 19th (Thursday) Mr. Sullivan's 'Light of the World' will be performed, under his direction, for the first time in the Royal Albert Hall. On the following evening, Mr. Macfarren's oratorio 'St. John the Baptist' will be given for the first time in London, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, with Sir Michael Costa as conductor, and Mesdames Lemmens and Sterling, Messrs. Lloyd and Santley, in the solo parts.

A CORRESPONDENT, who was a subscriber last season to the Royal Italian Opera, has sent to us a curious return of the operas given at Covent Garden from the opening to the closing night, that is, from the 1st of April to the 26th of July, mentioning the *prima donna* who sang at each representation, and the name of the prominent male artist. These statistics show that the regular subscribers did not have a fair proportion of the attractions which the casts in the works provided. We cannot insert the tables at length; but they show that Madame Adelina Patti sang altogether twenty-seven times, of which nine only were for the subscribers and eighteen were non-subscription, or what are termed "Extra Nights," when the privileges of the supporters of the undertaking are suspended. Of the nine subscription performances by Madame Patti, five were on the Tuesdays and four only on the Saturdays, the latter evenings being, of course, the most convenient ones for attendance. Our Correspondent's contention is that, inasmuch as the main capital to carry on Italian Opera is supplied by the season subscriptions, the amateurs who advance the ways and means ought to have their fair quantum of works with the strongest casts.

HERR CARL ROSA, the late director of the English Opera Company which would have played at the Drury Lane Theatre this month, but for the lamented decease of Madame Parepa-Rosa the undertaking was abandoned, has founded a Parepa-Rosa Scholarship at the Royal Academy of Music for lady pupils, the winner in the competition to receive two years' free education. There will be a second prize, a gold medal, with a likeness of the late *prima donna*.

THE *Glasgow Herald* reports that Herr Conrad Behrens, the German basso, made a highly successful *début*, as Marcel in the 'Huguenots,' performed last Saturday in Edinburgh, by Mr. Mapleson's Italian travelling troupe. Herr Behrens has an imposing stage presence, a fine voice, a grand style, and is besides an excellent actor. The *Glasgow News* in noticing the performances of the

company, reiterates a complaint of long standing. "It is a mistake," writes our Scotch contemporary, "to suppose that a continued sequence of well-known stock pieces will continue to attract through a long series of years. We gratefully accept the revival of such sterling compositions as 'Figaro' and 'Oberon.' Let the management revive 'William Tell' and 'Masaniello,' and see what the Glasgow public will do."

BACH'S 'Passion' (St. Matthew) will be rendered in Westminster Abbey on the afternoon of Wednesday in Passion Week, and also in the Royal Albert Hall on the 30th and 31st of March, April 1st and 2nd.

M. GOUNOD is threatened with legal proceedings in Paris by the heirs of Michel Carré, the author of the libretto of 'Mireille,' for having refused to give the manager of the Opéra Comique his authorization as composer to produce the work. The contention of the heirs is that, according to French law, a composer has only a mutual property right with the poet, and that the former cannot deal with, or dispose of, his score without agreement with the author of the book.

THE revival of Rossini's 'Semiramide' at the Paris Théâtre Italien was chiefly a choral and orchestral success, for the principals were not equal to the calls upon their vocal powers which the composer's score exacts. Mdle. Belval was the Assyrian Queen; Mdle. de Belocca, Arsace; and Signor Padilla, Assur; but not one of these three artists could conquer the difficulties of the Rossinian roudades. The only effective singing was that of Signor Fiorini as Oroé, and of Signor Benfratelli as Idreno. The Directors had taken some pains with the *mise en scène*, which, however, was vastly inferior to that at the Grand Opéra in Paris in 1860, when the poet Méry's French adaptation of 'Semiramide' was produced, with the sisters Carlotta and Barbara Marchisio as the Queen and Arsace; M. Obin, Assur; M. Dufresne, Idreno; and M. Coulon, Oroé. For this memorable mounting, Carafa nominally wrote ballet music, but it was really written by Rossini, who generously gave his old friend his financial interest in the music, Carafa having lost a government pension. Mozart's 'Nozze di Figaro' will be given for Mesdames Belval, Heilbron, and De Belocca as the Countess, Susanna, and Cherubino—the music of these parts is within their capacities; M. Barré is to be the Count, and Signor Fiorini, Figaro.

MOZART'S masterpiece, 'Les Noces de Figaro,' is also in preparation at the Opéra Comique, but, before that work is given, Mdle. Chapuy is to appear as Mignon, in the opera of M. Ambroise Thomas.

M. HALANZIER will bring out at the Salle Ventadour M. Membree's new opera, 'L'Esclave,' late in April. The director has engaged Madame Gabrielle Krauss, who will make her *début* at the opening of the new Grand Opera-house in January, 1875. The lady is now *prima donna* at the San Carlo in Naples.

THE marriage of M. Chamerot (the head of the Librairie Firmin Didot in Paris) with Mdle. Claudie Viardot, daughter of the eminent *prima donna*, Madame Pauline Viardot Garcia (sister of Malibran), and of M. Louis Viardot, the author, was celebrated last Saturday, at the Église de la Trinité in Paris.

BERLIN is about to follow the example of Vienna in the erection of a theatre for comic opera specially.

MADAME PATTI commenced her Italian Opera representations in Vienna, at the An der Wien Theatre, on the 4th inst., in Verdi's 'Traviata,' with Signori Nicolini and Cotogni as Alfredo and Germont.

THE Mozart-Foundation at Salzburg is making way. The latest liberal donors are the King of Portugal, who is an accomplished amateur, the Khedive of Egypt, the Duke of Brunswick, and the Duke of Saxe-Altenburg.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

OLYMPIC.—'Lady Clancarty; or, Wedded and Wooded,' an Historical Drama in Four Acts. By Mr. Tom Taylor. ADOLPH.—'Elizabeth; or, the Exiles of Siberia.' By G. Reynolds. Revival.

GAITY.—'The Rivals'—'The School for Scandal.' QUEEN'S.—'Rachel the Reaper,' a Domestic Drama, in Two Acts. By Mr. Charles Reade.

HOLBORN.—'Les Domestiques,' Comédie, en Trois Actes. Par Eugène Grangé and Raymond Deslandes.—'Les Grandes Demoiselles,' Comédie, en Un Acte. Par Edmund Gondinet.

IN spite of the wordiness of the early acts, Mr. Tom Taylor's historical play of 'Lady Clancarty; or, Wedded and Wooded' obtained, on its first production, a distinct success. The idea on which it rests is ingenious and novel, if not thoroughly dramatic; and the arrangement of the incidents is the work of a practised hand. The dialogue, moreover, in the more exciting scenes does not want elevation; and the principal characters are depicted with care. These merits prove sufficient to atone for slow movement and elaborate explanations in early scenes, and to win for the last two acts a highly favourable reception. With a certain measure of compression, 'Lady Clancarty' may hope to retain a position as an acting play, like that of the 'Sheep in Wolf's Clothing,' a drama which is from time to time revived.

Few stories of real life are more picturesque in accessories, or more romantic in incident, than the life of Donagh MacCarthy, Earl Clancarty. The dramatist, indeed, has had no further trouble with his materials than implicating the young nobleman in a plot for the assassination of William the Third, with which he was not, in fact, concerned; and giving additional spirit to the first meeting of husband and wife, by making it the occasion of a rescue, in which the Earl shows reckless bravery. He would be but a churlish critic who should take exception to alterations so conventional, and warranted by so long precedent.

Four acts serve for the development of the story. Act first shows a meeting of Jacobite conspirators and smugglers, at The Hurst, in Romney Marsh. Clancarty, who has just arrived from France, is fortunate enough to rescue from the mob a lady, whose carriage has broken down on the rough road leading to the tavern. After her departure, he finds that the woman he has protected is his wife, married in childhood and since separated from him, through a combination of circumstances, among which his own Jacobite proclivities must count. A project for the abduction or assassination of William is mooted, and Clancarty alone opposes it. In the second act, Clancarty has an interview with the King, in Kensington Palace, and reveals to him, with due precaution for the safety of the plotters, the contemplated outrage. With modesty not supposed to be characteristically Hibernian, he keeps from William a knowledge of his name. While in the palace upon this errand, he meets his wife, and ventures upon a little wooing—assumably vicarious, since he presents himself to her as the friend of the husband from whom she is separated, and concerning whom she has a natural curiosity. His attempt to shield the conspirators is unavailing, since a traitor less scrupulous than he reveals the entire plot, and gives a list of the intending regicides. In this the name of Clancarty figures. In the third act, flying for his life,

he takes shelter in his wife's apartment, and throws himself upon her mercy. A refuge can scarcely be refused him by the woman whose life he has saved but a few days previously. His wooing is, however, repelled, until he discloses his name, and gives satisfactory proof of his identity. Short space is afforded for love-making, for the *tête-à-tête* is rudely interrupted by the arrival of Lord Charles Spencer, the brother of the lady. Knowing the uncompromising character of the man with whom she has to deal, Lady Clancarty attempts to rescue her husband at the price of her reputation, and passes him off as her lover. Such degradation Clancarty will not permit. He discloses his name accordingly to Lord Charles, who, deaf to his sister's prayers, and to all considerations but those of loyalty, fetches a file of soldiers, and arrests the young Irishman in his wife's arms. A fourth act brings the *dénouement*. The letters of Lady Clancarty to the King, supplicating for pardon, are stopped by her brother, and the day for the infliction of death upon the conspirators arrives. At the last moment the "widowed wife and wedded maid" succeeds, by means of a private staircase, in obtaining access to the King, throws herself at his feet, and, not without considerable difficulty, procures pardon for her husband, and leave to reside with him abroad.

Such, cleared of matter which is superfluous in narration, even if useful for dramatic purposes, is the story Mr. Taylor tells. In the early acts there is little of value except local colour, which is cleverly employed. From the commencement of the third act the story augments in interest, and the crowning situation is decidedly effective. The whole must be taken, due allowance being made for the wordiness of the second act, as neat dramatic workmanship. It is a cabinet picture of the Meissonnier school, and the portraits of rufflers, courtiers, and conspirators are striking and effective.

The exposition was satisfactory. Mr. Neville gave a bold presentation of the daring Irishman. His love-making had a soldierly ring, and his bearing was spirited and *insouciant*. A little uncertainty about the Irish accent, which came and went with the irregularity of a marsh light, alone interfered with the presentation. Mr. Charles Neville gave a very clever representation of *King William*. His get-up was remarkable, and the entire performance, in its moderation and equality, evinced power of no ordinary kind. Mr. Anson played, with a grim truth almost repulsive, the part of a traitor afraid of death. The episode in which this scene occurs is not in the same key as the remainder of the piece, and disturbs and impedes the main action. Miss Cavendish enacted the heroine with the requisite distinction and grace. In the third act she displayed great power, the manner in which she interrupted the avowal of her husband being startling in its intensity. Miss Fowler gave a bright presentation of *Lady Betty*, a high-spirited and turbulent madcap. The scenery and dresses were excellent in all respects, strict attention being paid to archaeological correctness.

Great must be the antiquarian zeal or the loyalty of those who sit out the performance of 'Elizabeth; or, the Exiles of Siberia,' revived at the Adelphi as an appropriate commemoration of royal nuptials. The old melodramatic opera, extracted by Reynolds from

the story of Madame Cottin, owed to the acting rather than any intrinsic merit the popularity it at first enjoyed. When produced at Covent Garden, in 1808, with the title of 'The Exile,' it was supported by Young, Pope, Munden, Liston, and Fawcett; in addition to Incledon, whose singing in Count Calmar was sufficient to secure the success of the representation. Since then the piece has undergone many alterations. Upon its revival at Covent Garden in 1821, most of the music was cut out, and the plot was re-arranged. To fit it for production at the Adelphi, the situations and dialogue have been reset. As it now stands, the play is wholly spectacular, the little dialogue introduced being singularly rapid in character, and barely serving to justify the not too appropriate scenery which is furnished. The sooner the piece is withdrawn, to make room for some more meritorious revival or novelty, the better it will be for the reputation of the Adelphi.

The success of the morning performances of "classical comedy" at the Gaiety has induced the management to extend the experiment. The representation of Sheridan's 'School for Scandal' on Saturday morning last accordingly was followed by the revival, on Monday evening, of 'The Rivals' of the same author. If neither performance comes entirely up to the highest standard of Art, neither can be regarded as unsatisfactory. In the most important characters the representation is the best the modern stage can supply. Mr. Phelps, who played *Sir Peter Teazle* and *Sir Anthony Absolute*, has a hard, dry style, which is in strong contrast to that of the more renowned among his predecessors. It is, however, not unsuited to the characters of last-century comedy. Mr. Phelps's performances in this line show, indeed, much study and high ability. Mr. Toole inherits few traditions. His *Moses*, in the 'School for Scandal,' and his *Bob Acres*, in 'The Rivals,' are full, however, of the drollery which springs from the individualism of the actor, resembling in this respect the comic impersonations of Mr. Buckstone. Mr. Vezin brings to the difficult parts of *Joseph Surface* and *Faulkland* eminent gifts, among which a sharply-defined style and great clearness and purity of elocution are the most noteworthy. Both performances were as good as any presentation of rather improbable characters can well be made. Miss Ada Cavendish gave a very finished portraiture of *Lady Teazle*, looking thoroughly the "belle" of the past century, and delivering the sparkling repartee with a grace of style rare on the stage, and admirably suited to last-century comedy. The part of *Lydia Languish* was taken by Miss E. Farren, who is certainly not its ideal exponent. The brightness and inexhaustible spirits of the actress compensated, however, for the absence of other qualities, and her performance was one of those most warmly greeted by the audience. Other characters were fairly sustained by Mr. Harcourt, Mr. Brough, Mr. Maclean, and Mr. Soutar, and both representations were received with a warmth which proves that older comedy, when fairly presented, will yet obtain a hold upon the public.

Mr. Charles Reade's drama, 'Rachel the Reaper,' is an adaptation of a novel previously published. It is new to London, but has been given with success in America and Australia. The story is interesting, and the treatment

new, at least, to the present generation; recalling rather the pastorals of Allan Ramsay than any modern composition. A single scene, representing a farmyard, suffices for the entire action. A reaper, travelling from farm to farm in search of work, wins, by her innocence and beauty, the love of the son of a yeoman. Her past history is sorrowful, however, and she declines regretfully a love she has no right to claim. A villain has seduced her by means of a bigamous marriage; has deserted her, and left her to earn a hard-won subsistence by the labour of her hands. This man is a visitor to the farm, and, moved by a desire to secure his own safety, betrays her secret, and causes her to be driven with shame from the house which has proved temporarily a home. With her restoration to honour, fortune, and love, and the exposure of the villainy to which she has been subject, the play ends. The story is familiar, and almost commonplace. It is elevated, however, by the treatment, which is thoroughly natural and unconventional. Mr. Reade can show the heart that beats behind dimity and home-spun; and his characters, conventional as regards their exterior, are natural and touching in their language and their emotions. The play, accordingly, enlists actively the sympathies. It has an agreeable odour of country lanes, fields, and gardens of

—gold-dusted snap-dragon,
Sweet-william, with its homely cottage smell,
And stocks in fragrant blow.

The acting in the principal characters is excellent. Miss Rose Evans shows a command of pathos in domestic drama which few actresses possess; and Mr. Kelly gives a thoroughly fine and sustained impersonation of the young farmer. A little exaggeration and roughness which was noticeable in the minor characters, was, perhaps, in keeping with the bucolic character of the piece.

At the Holborn, 'Les Domestiques' of MM. Grangé and Deslandes, and 'Les Grandes Demoiselles' of M. Gondinet, are the latest novelties. Neither piece is entirely new to London, adaptations of both having been given at West End theatres. The first, which is a clever satire upon modern servants, was finely interpreted by M. Didier and Madame Wilhem, and obtained a great success. A dance in the third act was warmly encoored. 'Les Grandes Demoiselles' was received with moderate favour.

Dramatic Gossip.

COMPLAINTS are again heard from France concerning the activity of the Censure, which, after having been awhile dormant, is once more "up and busy." A change of Government ordinarily brings some corresponding change in the exercise of the censorship. It is to be hoped the accession of a Conservative Government will beget in England a more cosmopolitan reading of the relations of art and propriety, so far as the French plays are concerned. The praiseworthy performances at the Holborn are continued with extreme difficulty, in consequence of the constant, and, as we hold, degrading, interference of our licensors with the pieces to be produced.

A VERSION by Mr. Wills of 'L'Article No. 47' of M. Adolphe Belot has been given with complete success at the Amphitheatre, Liverpool. Mrs. Herman Vezin played the principal part.

A NEW drama, by Messrs. A. E. T. Watson and Savile Clark, entitled 'Pendarvon,' has been successfully produced at the Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool.

A VERSION of the novel of 'Ready-Money Mortiboy' was, as we announced it would be, produced on Thursday at the Court Theatre.

THE long and painful illness of Mdlle. Desclée has at length terminated fatally. Ramours of her death were in circulation some days previous to the event. The loss of Mdlle. Desclée is one of the most serious histrionic art has known. Brief, comparatively, as had been the period in which she had been prominently before the public, she had displayed remarkable gifts, and obtained a large share of that personal sympathy and regard which is the special privilege of the actor, above other artists, to excite. Her fame is all but exclusively associated with the work of the younger Dumas, the heroines of which she presented in a manner that contributed greatly to their success. Diane de Lys was probably her finest impersonation.

It is stated that a new theatre will shortly be opened in Liverpool, to be called The Gaiety. It is to be devoted chiefly to the performance of burlesques and the lighter order of drama. We understand that the magistrates have granted a theatrical licence to the building.

MDLLE. BLANCHE MIROIR, a young artist who has not previously been seen on any Parisian stage, has obtained a remarkable success at the Palais Royal, in 'Une Femme qui Bégaye.' She has signed, at once, a two years' engagement with the Théâtre de la Renaissance. Very sanguine anticipations are formed concerning her forthcoming services on the stage.

SOME changes in the cast of 'Marie, Queen of Scots,' have been made at the Princess's, and the piece is the better for the change. The part of Chastelard is now played by Mr. Forbes Robertson, a young actor of much promise.

'DON JUAN D'AUTRICHE,' by Casimir Delavigne, is in rehearsal at the Porte Saint-Martin. M. Dumaine will play Charles Quint; M. Taillade, Philippe II.; M. Mangin, Quexada; and Mdlle. Dica-Petit, Doña Florinde.

'AMBOISE PARÉ,' by M. Maurice Coste, is in rehearsal at the Ambigu Comique, and will be followed by a version, by MM. Marc Fournier and Jules Lermina, of Hawthorne's 'Scarlet Letter.'

MISCELLANEA

A Use for the Surplus.—May I, through your columns, suggest to the Government that a tiny portion of the estimated five millions surplus should be used to bring up the small sum (1,200l.) available yearly for pensions on the Civil List to 2,000l. per annum? The additional 800l. a year would be well bestowed, and the tax-payers none the worse. M. J.

The Crane.—Knowing the interest many of your readers take in all that relates to local customs and provincial locations, I beg to say a few words in reference to your review of Mr. Longfellow's 'Hanging of the Crane.' My early days were passed in Somersetshire, between Bristol and Weston-super-Mare, and in that part of the country the iron that was in use in many a farm and cottage for hanging the three-legged crock resembled a crane, and was so called. Needless to say how completely the French "pendre la cremailière" corresponds to Mr. Longfellow's title, and its signification, *Anglicè house-warming*. J. B. BROCKLEY.

In your review of Longfellow's new poem, you remark that the word "Crane" is scarcely the word we attach to the article to which he refers. In some of the northern or north-western counties of England it is known by the appellation of a "sweet," or "sweak." J. F. S.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—H.—H. B.—M. C.—R. T.—C. L.—W. H. W.—received.

J. A.—Declined, with thanks.

We are compelled to hold over till next week a reply by Mr. Staunton to Dr. Ingleby's letter on Greene's "Young Journal."

No notice can be taken of communications not authenticated by the name and address of the senders.

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1 Soup Sifter.....	3. 0. 4. 0. 0. 4. 0.	3. 0. 4. 0. 0. 4. 0.	3. 0. 4. 0. 0. 4. 0.
Total.....	9. 0. 61. 0. 0. 61. 0. 0. 61. 0. 0.	9. 0. 61. 0. 0. 61. 0. 0. 61. 0. 0.	9. 0. 61. 0. 0. 61. 0. 0. 61. 0. 0.

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